THE OXFORD PAPER

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Petrol cans found in flat after explosion Page 7

Blend of old and new be-gin-s in city Page 15

Our charity: Helen & Douglas House Page 16

Weekly leisure guide for in & around Oxford

Get diesel off the roads fast plea as pollution levels rise

By George Welch

GREEN campaigners have called for diesel cars to be banned from Oxford roads—after it took little over a month for the city to exceed its air pollution limit.

Illustrations of protesters holding signs saying "diesel is breaking the limit" appeared in High Street and St Aldate s last week after it was revealed a busy London street became the first in the UK to break annual legal air pollution limits after just a month

It didn t take Oxford long to follow with High Street ticking over the mean nitrogen dioxide limit of 40 micrograms per cubic metre on Monday

Oxford Greenpeace volunteer Julia Spragg said the best way to tackle the 'crisis'—in Oxford and across the UK—is to get diesel off the roads– and fast.

"I'm really pleased in Oxford steps are being taken to tackle this crisis and to get diesel off our roads with the phasing in of low emission zones," she said.

"But the government should further support and fund local authorities to implement clean air zones in towns and cities and bring forwards the UK's phase-out date for diesel and petrol cars by at least a decade to 2030."

John Tanner, city council board member for a clean and green Oxford, accepted improvements are needed in Oxford but defended improving pollution levels in the city

He said. "Greenpeace's clean air campaign does them credit but it would be more effective if Greenpeace get their facts right. Pollution has fallen by a third in Oxford in the last 10 years but is still above the safe and legal level in some streets in the city centre.

"Even so levels of pollution in Oxford are much, much less than on main roads in London and Birmingham. "

Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council want to tackle pollution levels by introducing a small Zero Emission Zone in 2020 expanding it to cover the whole city centre by 2030

A report produced by Oxfordshire MEP Keith Taylor revealed 24 of Oxford s 70 monitoring sites have NO2 pollution levels above legal limits.

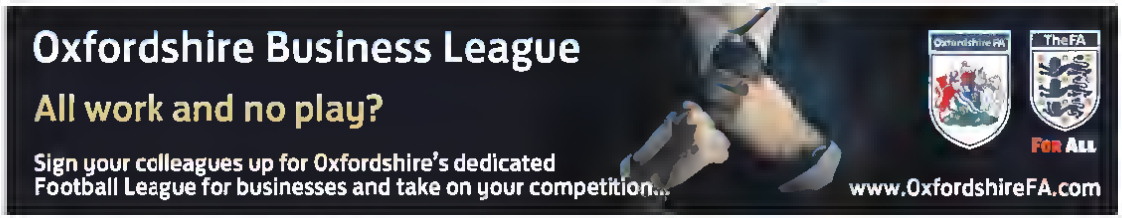
It added that NO2 emissions are worst in St Clements Street. with average annual levels almost 70 per cent higher than legal limits

Sixteen of the 24 sites over the legal limit were in Carfax or on the Carfax/ Holywell border in the city centre.

According to the city council, streets above the legal and safe level of 40 parts per million of NO2 include– St Aldates Park End Street Hythe Bridge Street, Beaumont Street, George Street, High Street Longwall Street, St Clements Street and Castle Street.

"Oxford is among the 15 most polluted cities in the UK and the toxic air is having hugely negative health impacts on the city's residents," Mr Taylor said.

Greenpeace used eye-catching illustrations to get the messaga about pollution levels in St Aldates and High Street across, warning more must ha done to tackle the issue in tha city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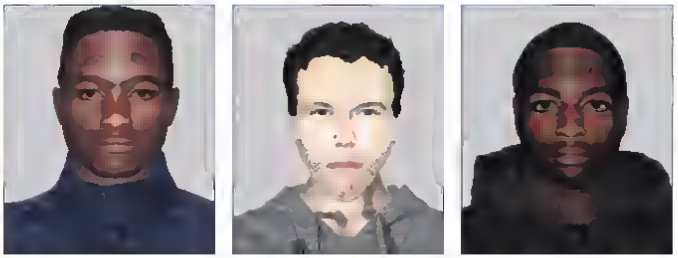


E fits of three af tha four men police want to speak to in connection witk the attempted Bitcoin theft in Maulsford

E-fits reveal men sought over Bitcoin robbery bid

Descriptions of three released, no details of fourth

By George Welch

E FITS of three men believed to be behind Britan's first digital currency heist have been released, as the police continue to hunt for suspects

Armed robbers broke into a house in affluent Moulsford and tried to force city trader Danny Aston, 30, to transfer Bitcoins electronically ever to them

The gang of four broke into the property in Offlands Court, off Reading Road, at around 9.40am on January 22, holding two men and a woman at gunpoint

Police have since confirmed the transaction was unsuccessful and the men fled empty-handed.

Police are yet to make an arrest and have released these images and descriptions of three of the men.

The first man is black, around 19 years old, 6ft 1in tall, of an athletic/slim build and was wearing a dark blue sports jacket with distinctive white slashes across the shoulder and down one arm. He was wearing similar colour trousers but these were not a matching set. He was also wearing white shoes which made him stand out.

The second man is white in his mid twenties, around 5ft 7ins tall and of slim build. He had long patchy stubble and was wearing a small rucksack on his back.

The third man is black, also in his mid twenties and is taller than 6ft. He was wearing a black Puffa style jacket.

Officers revealed no details of the fourth man.

Mr Aston was struck in the head during the aggravated burglary but was not seriously injured. He attended the John Radcliffe Hospital and was later discharged.

Thames Valley Police are still appealing for information. Contact police on 101 quoting reference 43160021974 if you can help. Alternatively call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

InBrief

Growth deal backed

LEADERS of all six Oxfordshire councils have backed a £215m deal for 100,000 homes in the county.

The Oxfordshire Growth Board, made up of the six council leaders, met last week to officially recommend that the deal, announced in November's Autumn Budget, should be formally accepted.

The deal still needs to be agreed by all local authorities at special meetings but the delivery plan is being finalised with government officials.

The Growth Board wants to use £150m for transport infrastructure, £60m to guarantee affordable housing and another £5m to aid the planning process.

Bob Price, chairman of the Growth Board and a city councillor, said the deal "represents a comprehensive and integrated approach to addressing Oxfordshire's housing, infrastructure and economic challenges".

"[The plan] recognises the critical role the county will play in driving forward the UK economy post-Brexit, attracting global investment," he added.

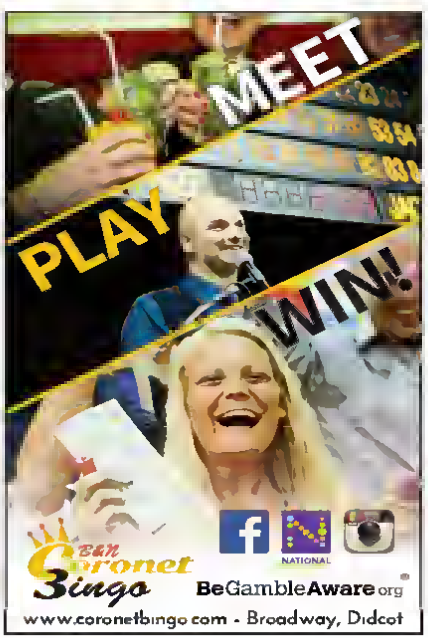
Burglary charges

TWO men accused of stealing £2,000 worth of wrapped presents from an Oxford home on Christmas Eve spoke only to confirm their names as they appeared in court for the first time last week.

Daniel Webb, 34, and Matthew Webb, 36, both of no fixed abode, appeared at Oxford Crown Court on Friday last week.

They are both charged with burglary following the break-in at a house in Walton Street, Jericho.

The men will appear at the same court to enter pleas on February 20.



Playground games fit for adults

Sarah Plater is helping Bicester Rabbin get fit and have fun

PLAYGROUND games are being used to get grown ups moving and get fitter.

Called Bicester Rabble, the scheme offers immersive playground-style games including childhood favourites such as Capture the Flag, The Hunger Games, Dodgeball, British Bulldog and Ja'Ibreak.

Founder and instructor Sarah Plater, who lives on the Kingsmere estate in Bicester said: "I found out about Rabble in Time Out London magazine and signed up for updates for it they ever launched nearer to Oxfordshire.

"I signed up for training in London and then became a franchisee after that.

"I have only played in London as up until now that was the only place it was on offer. Now franchises have launched as far off as America and Australia - it's really taking off."

Writer and photographer Sarah, 33, said during sessions players burn up to 1,000 calories and cover up to 8km in one game without even realising it.

She said: "It's really tough to keep doing exercise that you don't enjoy, as every time you have to convince yourself to do it for the long-term fitness gains. Bicester Rabble takes the opposite approach. It's fun, so you look forward to going every week. It's friendly, so you have great banter and social encouragement."

Bicester Rabble takes place at the new Whitelands Farm Sports Ground on Mondays from 6.45pm.

To sign up for a free session view joinrabble.com/bicester-sarah-plater/

Popular footballer dies after collapsing during match

HEARTBROKEN friends have paid tribute to popular Oxford man Wayne St Clair who died after collapsing during a veterans football match.

The player died at the John Radcliffe Hospital at about 4.30am on Thursday last week after falling ill during a game between Oxford University Press and Watlington Town the previous day.

Friend Michael Truby described Wayne, thought to be in his 40s, as the "nicest guy you'd meet," adding that he was "shocked and gutted" at his death.

Still a long way to go as mob marks 100 years of suffrage

By Eva Astreinidou

A FLASH mob descended on Oxford to commemorate the struggle of the suffragettes who paved the way for women having the vote

The centenary of the Representation of the People Act 1918 was celebrated on Tuesday as part of a series of events across the city

The legislation enabled all men and some women over the age of 30 to vote for the first time.

Tracy Walsh, coordinator of Oxford International Women's Festival, which runs from February 24 until March 11, organised the flash mob

Ms Walsh said. "It is important to remember and celebrate the centenary of the first group of women to win the vote they fought hard for this right and sacrificed much in order for women to be able to participate in the democratic process that we have here today

"Women have made many gains in the last 100 years but there is still a long way to go in areas such as the fight for equal pay and combatting sexual harassment.

"We hope the flash mob will make people aware of the significance of the 1919 legislation and the chance to remember those brave women."

The flash mob took place before a celebration of the life of Olive Gibbs at the Town Hall, where suffragette flags were flown to mark the occasion

Bodleian's Weston Library has also announced it will host an exhibition running until February next year titled Sappho to Suffrage.. Women Who Dared.

In addition, Oxford Playhouse will host a festival of work celebrating female stories called A Vote of Her Own.

Speaking earlier this week, city councillor Dr Suzanne Bartington encouraged women in the city to stand for public office to commemorate the centenary

She said: "We have a record number of women elected to Parliament but given over half of our population is female this is still not enough.

"I want to see more women in politics – from becoming leaders within their communities to standing for local and national public office."

The group calling for votes for women parade in Carfax

InBrief

Man flashed at girls

A MAN carrying a bottle and smoking a cigarette sexually exposed himself to two teenage girls.

Police said the man 'touched himself inappropriately' in public on Tuesday last week.

The incident happened in Banbury Road, close to the Staverton Road junction, just south of Summertown in north Oxford.

Two teenage girls aged 16 and 17, who were inside a property at the time saw the exposure at about 11.40pm

The man is white in his mid-30s to mid-40s with dark hair He was wearing a dark hip-length puffer jacket and dark trousers

Call police on 101 quoting 43180031658 with information.

Lord Mayor named

THE new Lord Mayor for Oxford has been confirmed.

Jericho and Osney ward member Colin Cook will take over from current Lord Mayor Jean Fooks for 2018/19

Deputy Lord Mayor will be Sajjad Malik and the Sheriff of Oxford will be Craig Simmons.

They will take on their new roles in May and hold them for 12 months

City budget plan

OXFORD City Council has published its final budget proposal for 2018/19

The proposals which include a 2.99 per cent council tax rise and an increase in homelessness spending, have been recommended for approval at a council meeting on Tuesday Visit tinyurl.com/yba7v7g5

Emergency shelter for homeless as temperatures drop

EMERGENCY night shelter accommodation was provided for homeless people in Oxford this week as conditions plunged to sub-zero temperatures

City council and homelessness organisations made extra bed spaces available for rough sleepers in the city from Sunday to last night after the council activated its severe weather emergency protocol (SWEP)

Temperatures hit zero degrees Celsius on Sunday night before the mercury plunged to -3 degrees at night.

Temperatures were expected to rise today and a decision on whether to activate SWEP beds over the weekend will be made tomorrow

SWEP bed spaces open on the first night of a period when the Met Office forecasts the temperature will fall to zero or below on three or more consecutive nights

When SWEP is activated, emergency accommodation is available for anyone who would otherwise be sleeping rough on the night – even if they would not usually be eligible for the city's adult homeless pathway

Cllr David Thomas, leader of the Oxford Greens said. "Beds should be made available for rough sleepers whenever freezing temperatures are forecast – at the very least

"It should not take three cold nights to trigger provision."

For more information on rough sleeping in Oxford during severe weather visit tinyurl.com/y7jfgmpf

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Even more feet taking to street in centre of city

OXFORD city centre is enjoying a spike in the number of visitors - and it's not just down to the 'Westgate effect'

There were 11.9 per cent more people in the city centre for the week beginning January 22 compared to the same week last year, latest footfall figures have shown.

A total of 722,166 people came into the centre of Oxford in that week.

And it is not just that one week that has shown an increase. The trend over the last year has seen a large increase up 10.8 per cent on the previous year.

The city council measures the number of city centre visitors by counting those who pass through Cornmarket, Queen Street and St George's Place.

Former council leader Bob Price said: "We are continuing to see a very welcome and significant increase in the number of people coming into the centre of the city.

"This is almost certainly a 'Westgate effect', but the effect is not confined to the new shopping centre and the numbers of people all round the city centre have shown a big increase."

The busiest day during the week was Saturday January 27, when 130,946 visited Cornmarket and Queen Street.

The busiest time was 2pm when 12,777 people were counted in the city centre.

A sound idea for theatre fundraiser

Lee Duffy and deputy general manager Adela Robinson, handed over the board to members of Soundabout, including chief executive Mark Smyth and programme manager, Jo Colton

A year-long charity partnership has raised more than £2,500 for a good cause.

New Theatre Oxford, which sponsored Soundabout as its charity of the year 2017, marked the occasion by handing over an autographed treasure trove of some of the biggest acts around including U2's Bono.

During the 12-month period, the venue raised the funds from numerous bucket collections, a bake sale, as well as a member of staff running the Liverpool rock 'n' roll half marathon.

Alongside the fundraising, the theatre asked several stars from the world of music to sign a resonance board that will be auctioned at a later date to raise more funds.

Names on the board include Kevin Kennedy, Roy Wood, Caro Emerald, Billy Ocean, Rick Astley and Daniel O'Donnell among others.

New Theatre Oxford general manager, Lee Duffy, said: "It is important for us as a venue to be involved and show our support for local groups, which was one of the reasons why we decided to form year-long partnerships with a nominated local charity.

"We are always overwhelmed by the generosity of our visitors, and I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to each and every person who made a contribution."

Oxford-based Soundabout aims to give disabled children and adults a voice through music, rhythm and sound.

InBrief

PlayStation stolen

POLICE are on the hunt for witnesses after a games console was stolen from student accommodation in Oxford.

The PlayStation was taken from the Clive Booth Student Village in John Garne Way, Marston between January 21 and 27. Police added that 'other items' were also taken.

It is unknown how the offender gained entry.

Contact police on 101, quoting reference number 43180030125 if you have any information about the burglary.

Theft of jewellery

CAR keys and jewellery have been stolen from an Oxford home.

The items were stolen from the Upland Park Road property in Sunnymead between 11am on Thursday last week and 11pm on Sunday.

Police said the number of offenders is unknown but that they forced entry via a back window before carrying out a messy search.

If you have any information about the burglary, contact police on 101, quoting reference number 43180030963.

>> Oxford's BAFTA rising star nominee
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Clearing foliage to help tackle drugs problem

By George Welch

FOLIAGE at a known drug dealing hotspot near the city centre has been cleared as part of a campaign to tackle drug offences in Oxford.

City council workers and volunteers carried out the work in an alleyway off Wytham Street, New Hinksey, last week.

Foliage was cut back and scrub vegetation cleared along the alleyway with the aim of opening up sight lines for residents and police and to improve the appearance of the area.

The alleyway is a main cycling route into the city centre.

It was part of the Stronghold Campaign, an on-going initiative led by Thames Valley Police and Oxford City Council to tackle drugs offences.

The campaign has included high visibility targeted patrols aimed at disrupting offending, identifying and arresting offenders and reassuring residents.

A range of measures such as improving lights and installing CCTV as well as cutting back foliage are being considered at other key locations.

The work, led by a biodiversity and habitat expert, will also protect and preserve the biodiversity of the area.

City councillor Tom Hayes said: "Everything we do is to improve people's lives and strengthen their communities.

"This is a known drugs hot spot and residents say they don't feel safe. This work will make it harder for drug dealing and taking to take place which will protect vulnerable people caught up in the drugs market and deliver security for our communities."

He added: "Our aims are simple: stopping drug deals and wider criminal behaviour, reassuring people and building up trust in this joint work, and using every tool that is available to the city council and the police to safeguard the very vulnerable against exploitation in their own city."

More homes for 'significant development'

HOUSEBUILDER Redrow Homes will build more than 200 homes on the new Barton Park estate.

The Flintshire-based firm was chosen to build 207 homes at the site after being appointed by developer Grosvenor and Oxford City Council, who are in charge of the joint venture.

Redrow, the second builder to be selected, will build two, three and four-bedroom homes. Hill Residential was appointed in 2015 to build 237 houses.

Overall, the new 94-acre neighbourhood will have 885 homes - 40 per cent of which will be 'affordable' - alongside a primary school, food store, community hub and a park.

Cllr Mike Rowley, the city council's board member for housing, said the appointment "brings us closer to our aim of a united, mixed Barton community with shared facilities and genuinely affordable homes for those who need them."

Barton Park is one of 10 NHS healthy new towns, which means there will be a strong green infrastructure network, including greenways and a linear park.

Edward Irving, land director at Redrow Homes, described Barton Park as "one of the most significant developments in Oxford for decades."

It was revealed last year a three-bedroom house in the new development would cost at least £595,000.

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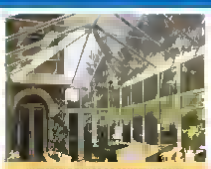

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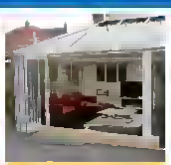

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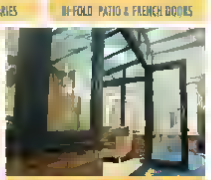

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News

Enthusiasts rally round classic cars

SCORES of people lined the streets of Banbury to catch a glimpse of the iconic Monte Carlo Rally

One by one drivers taking part in the famous Rallye Monte Carlo Historique and Classique, stopped off in Banbury, one of the official passage control points

It was the first time in 58 years the rally stopped in the town – and last Thursday classic cars of all shapes and sizes parked up in Bridge Street and Market Place.

Monte Carlo drivers started arriving in the town from 11am, having travelled from Barnby Moor in Nottinghamshire.

Cherwell District Council chairman Cllr Maurice Billington, who welcomed the drivers at Banbury Town Hall said: "The Monte Carlo Rally event has been a great success and I am really glad that residents and visitors have enjoyed it.

"The high attendance, even on a weekday is an international recognition for Banbury as a key place for motorsport

Local classic and racing car businesses also staged an exhibition of vehicles in the town.

Among those taking part were Prodrive, Nissan, HGM, Tuthill Porsche and Cropredy Bridge, as well as a number of private owners.

Douglas Andersen, coordinator of the UK leg of the rally said:

Historic and classic cars draw the crowds in Banbury on Thursday as part of the Monte Carlo Rally

"We chose Banbury because it is located in the centre of the motorsport valley and, given the successful turn out for the Monte Carlo passage, I must say we made the right choice."

The 1,500-mile rally finished in Monaco on Sunday

MP: Hospice must be given financial help to continue its work

By Eva Astreinidou

HEALTH bodies need to step in to help a hospice cope with mounting financial issues.

Oxford East MP Anneliese Dodds has called on Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group to help Helen & Douglas House which last week announced it would have to close one of its care hubs to ensure its long-term survival.

The charity predicts it will have a £2.5m deficit by the end of March due to a shortfall in funding. In addition to closing its hub for young people aged 18-35 it will also have to axe 35 jobs.

Ms Dodds said: "I know the very valuable work that Helen & Douglas House does. There really is no facility like it.

"Perhaps the local Clinical Commissioning Group could find a way to help, especially if this could help generate additional, sustainable, funding."

In a statement released last week, a spokesperson for Helen & Douglas House which provides end of life care and support to families said one of the challenges the charity faces is that local clinical commissioning groups have different approaches to how much financial support they can provide.

They added: "Many support the charity but Oxfordshire's CCG does not. Over 40 per cent of the care we provide is to children who live in Oxfordshire. Given the decisions we are now having to make, we hope that further discussions may lead to a change in this approach."

Diane Hedges, chief operating officer at OCCG said: "We are sorry to hear that Helen & Douglas House is having to change the service it provides.

"Going forward, the CCG will work with [the charity] to ensure those patients being cared for, from Oxfordshire, will continue to receive any essential healthcare which is currently provided by the charity.

"The CCG keeps all these palliative care services under review as required and Helen & Douglas House can bid for contracts. We also meet regularly with end of life care stakeholders and providers in Oxfordshire."

She added that the CCG commissions end of life care for people over the age of 18 from Michael Sobell House in Oxford, Sue Ryder hospice in south Oxfordshire and Katharine House hospice in north Oxfordshire.

Helen & Douglas House has said it will help its young adult patients access alternative care where available in the community while they plan to continue to provide specialist palliative care for terminally ill children and young people aged 0-18 years old both at Helen House and at home.

Inquest told of strange behaviour before blast

By Eva Astreinidou

AN explosion that tore through a block of flats is believed to have been caused by petrol fumes igniting.

Almost a year since homes in Gibbs Crescent, West Oxford, were destroyed in a Valentine's Day blast, the first details of a lengthy investigation have emerged.

An inquest at Oxford Coroner's Court yesterday heard the remains of Guido Schuette, 46, were found in the rubble on February 18.

The court was told Mr Schuette had four vehicles and collected car parts which he stored in the flat.

Detective Sergeant David Whittle and fire service station manager Bob Speakman said they found large quantities of petrol fuel, as well as a pair of crocodile clips attached to a car battery near the remains.

DS Whittle said the fuel was likely to have been stored there to use as a solvent to clean car parts, rather than for the intention of self harm or harm to others.

Mr Speakman agreed, adding the flat appeared to be more of a workshop than a place of residence.

DS Whittle said police officers had been called to Mr Schuette's flat after reports of screaming just days before the incident on February 18.

The explosion at the flats in Gibbs Crescent last year and inset, Guido Schuette who was killed in the blast

PC McKeegan, who was one of the officers who attended, said they had to force their way into the flat due to concerns over welfare.

In a statement read to the court, neighbour Darren Vernon, who alerted the police said he had heard Mr Schuette screaming: "Everyone wake up it is the master the master is here"

Mr Vernon said he was aware Mr Schuette had stored fuel in his flat, and he was afraid Mr Schuette might do something to cause harm using the fuel.

The court also heard from another neighbour who was involved in a harassment dispute with Mr Schuette.

Statements from family members were also read out in court in which he was described as a loner.

The inquest was ongoing as we went to press.

Man on bicycle groped women

POLICE are on the lookout for a serial groper who sexually assaulted an Oxford woman from his bicycle.

An e-fit image has been released following the incident which took place on December 6 at about 6.30pm on the cycle path in Marston Ferry Road.

The offender stopped his bicycle to let a 45-year-old woman pass before attempting to touch her inappropriately.

He remained in the area watching the victim for another few seconds before cycling away.

Police believe the offender could have links to four other assaults in Oxford since November last year.

The first occurred in Lime Walk, Headington, on November 15 and three others occurred on the Marston Ferry Road on January 11, 18 and 28.

In each case the offender touched women inappropriately from his bicycle.

The man is described as a gaunt and skinny white man aged in his early twenties wearing dark clothing and a beanie hat during each incident.

Investigating officer, PC Rebecca Nightingale, based at Banbury police station, said "We would like to speak to anyone who recognises this man or who has any information which could help us identify the person in this e-fit image."

Witnesses or anyone with information should call Thames Valley Police on 101 quoting reference 43170363277, or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

The man is thought to have worn a beanie hat and dark clothing during the four sexual assaults

The magic of Quidditch at Brookes

THE country's finest seekers, chasers and beaters will bring the magic to Oxford after the city was selected to host the British Quidditch Cup.

The Harry Potter inspired competition will take place at Brookes Sport in Botley on March 24 and 25 and feature 32 teams.

Organiser Quidditch UK says more than 800 people play the sport, which also draws on rugby and dodgeball, and participation is growing.

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News

4,000km challenge to help cancer research

By Owen Hughes

ADVENTURERS from Oxford are kayaking 4,000km from England to Romania to raise funds for a pancreatic cancer charity.

Anna Blackwell, 24, from Summertown, and Kate Culverwell, 19 from Headington, will begin paddling across Europe in April, navigating their way from the English Channel to the Black Sea over four months.

The former Headington School pupils are hoping their tandem kayak through 13 countries and four capital cities can raise £50,000 for Pancreatic Cancer Action.

Kate's father died from the disease in 2015 mid-way through her A-levels.

Anna, who will quit her part-time job with an Oxford-based legal firm to become a full-time adventurer, said: "Pancreatic cancer is one of the least funded and least researched cancers that there is and it's on its way to being one of the top five cancer killers in Europe.

"Despite that, there's still so little funding put into it. I think it's less than one per cent of Cancer Research UK's funding that actually goes to pancreatic cancer.

"A big part of our trip is raising awareness of this disease and trying to raise as much money as we can for it."

Anna and Kate are preparing for the trip with a gruelling training regime in the gym and out on the water at Falcon Rowing and Canoe Club in Iffley.

Anna added: "Tuesday morning when it was 2°C I was on the river in the dark, which was an experience, but we're normally in the gym for at least an hour and a half before work with one day off a week."

Supported by the Young Explorers' Trust, the pair will also contribute data to a global citizen science project for FreshWater Watch measuring the effects of urban areas on phosphate and nitrate levels and living organisms in Europe's waterways.

Anna said: "If tracking 4,000km wasn't enough for us to be dealing with, we thought we'd chuck something else into the mix.

"Kate's a musician and I did a psychology degree, so we're both completely new to this kind of research."

A spokesperson for Pancreatic Cancer Action said: "Kate and Anna are taking on an incredibly tough challenge. We can't wait to see what these brave girls achieve."

Cunning plan to meet Sir Tony at first Comic Con

BLACKADDER and Time Team star Sir Tony Robinson is the latest headline guest announced for a new comic convention coming to Oxfordshire.

The comedy legend will meet fans, sign autographs and take part in a live Q&A session during the inaugural Thames Con at Abingdon and Witney College's Abingdon campus on April 28.

The comic actor shot to fame in his role as Baldrick in the classic BBC sitcom Blackadder and more recently presented the popular archaeology programme Time Team during its 19-year run.

In 2006, he was granted an honorary doctorate from Oxford Brookes University before receiving a Knighthood in 2013.

Festival organiser Zainab Mirmalek said: "I wanted to create an event that had something for everyone, that's really inclusive and also entertaining.

"To have Sir Tony joining us for our first event is very exciting, I loved his comedic roles as a child and couldn't think of a better headline guest for Thames Con."

Sir Tony Robinson will be at Abingdon & Witney College in April

Hollywood stunt group 3RUN who have worked on The Avengers Star Wars and Pirates of the Caribbean, will be performing parkour for festival goers.

Blue Peter presenter Lindsey Russell, comicbook artist Lee Townsend, movie prop maestro Dangerous Bob and Game of Thrones actors Josef Altin and Ross Mullan will also feature.

For tickets visit www.thamescon.co.uk

Saddles stolen after garden shed break-ins

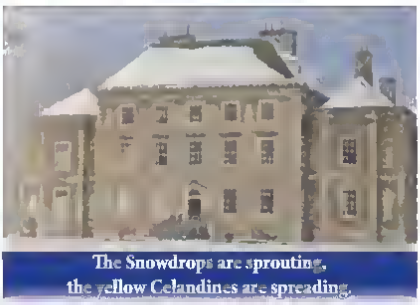
TEN saddles were stolen after thieves broke into garden sheds in a south Oxfordshire village.

Police said the unknown offenders broke into three sheds at the back of a garden on Eyres Lane, Ewelme.

The incident happened between 1am and 8am on Tuesday last week.

Contact police on 101 quoting reference 43180031252 with any information on the burglary or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

MILTON MANOR HOUSE
MILTON VILLAGE
Between Didcot & Abingdon



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Horton campaigners join protest to highlight concerns about NHS

By Samantha McGregor

DOZENS of protestors rallied at the Horton Hospital as part of a nationwide campaign to highlight concerns about the NHS

Thousands of people, including members of the Keep the Horton General campaign group marched in London to share their anger over the mounting crisis facing the NHS

While up to 60 people staged their own protest at the Banbury hospital, in Oxford Road, on Saturday

Labour group leader Sean Woodcock, who attended the Banbury protest, said: "There was a good crowd considering the poor weather and late notice.

"It was important to go along and show that there are still people willing to fight for our hospital. Determination among those who attended remains."

Sue Edgar chair of Labour Health Matters, a working group of the Banbury and Bicester constituency Labour Party welcomed the local protest and said the group would continue to "battle to prevent irreparable harm being done to our local communities through the loss of a fully functioning hospital"

It comes as North Oxfordshire MP Victoria Prentis raised concerns about "lines of communication" between herself, Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, about maternity services.

Campaigners gathered at the Horton on Saturday in solidarity with a rally in London

Last month, midwives had to be drafted into Oxford's John Radcliffe Hospital, from around the county meaning a reduced and cancelled service at some other midwife-led units.

Mrs Prentis said: "I was extremely disappointed to find out that the Horton MLU has been closed on two separate occasions in recent weeks

"It should not be for my constituents to tell me what is going on, but for the Trust to come to me with the information I need to allay people's concerns

"I have made no secret of the fact that I feel lines of communication are poor; since changes to obstetric services were first announced in the summer of 2016 it has been very difficult to extract the relevant information.

"I continue to make my views known to both the Trust and local Clinical Commissioning Group at every opportunity and remain committed to fight for the future of the Horton General Hospital."

OUH Trust said it had experienced "an unusually high level of demand on our maternity unit at the John Radcliffe Hospital" over the weekend of January 20 and 21, and in line with processes on-call midwives were drafted in. It said the Horton unit remained open.

Dame Fiona Caldicott, chairman of Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, says: "We were disappointed to hear Victoria Prentis' comments.

"We strive to be as open and transparent as possible with our patients, governors, local communities and MPs

"Our board meetings are held in public with papers published on our website in advance."

InBrief

Ram raid attempt

POLICE are on the hunt for more ram raiders after vandals failed in the latest bid to steal an in-store cash machine.

The latest attempt is the fourth incident across Oxfordshire within two months

Saturday night's raid involved a stolen Land Rover Discovery being reversed into the Aldi store at Horspath Driftway, Oxford at around 11.50pm to try and remove the cash machine from inside the store.

Defeated, they abandoned the 4x4 and fled the scene on foot.

The latest ram raid on a supermarket follows similar raids in Chipping Norton in December and in Charlbury and Grove last month.

Police have not said whether the raids are linked.

Contact police on 101 quoting reference 1461 3/2 if you have any information on the latest incident.

Housing for all bid

THAME Town Council is looking for volunteers to set up and run a Community Land Trust.

The aim is to provide genuinely affordable housing and to aid first time buyers

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News

Zambia cycle in memory of his brother

By Samantha McGregor

A BANBURY man is gearing up to ride hundreds of miles to raise cash in memory of his brother

Alfred Chipembele wants to raise £3 650 for a road safety project in Zambia run by charity Transaid.

Alfred, who works at Banbury's DAR Lighting, will cycle in memory of his brother Milton Tembo who was killed at a Zebra crossing in Lusaka in Zambia.

Now Alfred has now joined a global effort to prevent road deaths in his native Zambia.

He is in training for Transaid's Cycle Zambia 2018, in which he will ride 490kilometres from Lusaka to Victoria Falls in Zambia.

Alfred Chipembele gears up to cycle 490km in memory of his brother who was killed in Lusaka

Alfred said. "I have joined colleagues on a campaign mission to create road safety awareness in an effort to reduce road traffic accidents in Zambia and Africa in general.

'In March 2000 my own elder brother Milton Tembo—a professional driver himself was just two years away from his retirement—lost his life together with his friend at a zebra crossing after being hit by a minibus driver in Lusaka.

"I believe many such horrific accidents can be prevented if driver training and government road safety policy makers put more emphasis on the importance of road safety and driving standards.

"The prevalence of road traffic accidents in Zambia cannot be over emphasised, destroying lives and delaying the economic and social progress of the nation.

"It is for these reasons and in memory of all those loved ones who have beeo lost as a result of reckless driving and defective vehicles that I have decided to be part of the Cycle Zambia challenge."

According to the World Bank, road deaths are the third biggest killer in sub Saharan Africa after HIV/AIDS and Malaria.

Another successful road safety scheme run by Transaid is the Zambia Professional Driver Training initiative.

To sponsor Alfred go to justgiving com/fundraising/alfred-chipembele

Couple jailed for running brothel in Oxford

A COUPLE who ran brothels in locations across the country including one in Oxford, have been jailed.

Martin Cheetham and Christina Motta, pictured, admitted running brothels in Cowley as well as Bristol and Milton Keynes between November 2015 and April 2016 — making more than £24 000

The couple also pleaded guilty to controlling prostitution for gain in relation to one woman found in the Bristol address who they created and maintained online escort adverts for and arranged for travel between brothels

Appearing at Bristol Crown Court on January 12 Cheetham, 42 and Motta, 35 of Milton Keynes were sentenced to 12 months and 18 months in prison respectively

Detective Constable Dale Morgan said: "Cheetham and Motta deliberately took advantage of these vulnerable women working in their brothels It is unacceptable they should benefit from their activities and we will seek to confiscate their illegal earnings through the Proceeds of Crime Act.

"It took immense courage for the victim to support our inquiry and I hope these sentences will give other victims of controlled prostitution and modern slavery the strength and belief to come forward."

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Day 1 We arrive at our hotel this afternoon where we stay for 4 nights. After dinner this evening, a local speaker will give you an introductory talk on Ludlow and Shropshire.

Day 2. Today is left free to explore Ludlow at your own pace. It's a 900year-old Norman market town with medieval streets that survive to this day almost intact. There's an 'Ant'ques Roadshow' type event nightly, so why not bring along something you'd like valued. A local expert will be on hand to value and give a talk, and have a bit of fun.

Day 3 Today we follow part of the 'Black and White Village Trail' - a circular meander that takes in some of the most unspoilt villages of Herefordshire finishing with a **CREAM TEA** in Leominster. After dinner tonight - a local quiz.

Day 4. Morning visit to the Ludlow food centre for a talk and tasting of local produce. Later we visit Hereford city and enjoy some free time here. The Cathedral is highly recommended!...

Day 5 After a last hearty breakfast, we leave for home.

Feathers Hotel, Ludlow ★ ★ ★ *See website for full details.*

Coach departs **Monday 5th March £249**

Price includes: 4 nights hotel, dinner, bed & breakfast & trips out. *Single room supplement £26*

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Torquay

4 Days £219

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Day 2 Today we visit the charming small Devon towns of Sidmouth and Dawlish.

Day 3 This morning we see Dartmouth - one of Devon's most picturesque harbour towns.
This afternoon we are back in Torquay to enjoy some time in resort.

Day 4. We leave for home after a last hearty Headland breakfast to see us on our way.

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Day 2 A trip to the historic city of Winchester. It's home to Cathedral one of the oldest in the country (begun in 1079) - a must see while you're here. Also see the old city centre with its narrow pedestrian streets and overhanging medieval buildings. Of special interest are the Pentice - a group of old shops arcaded at the front, and the Buttar Cross - dating back to the 15th century and built with a tax levied on people caught eating butter during Lent.

Day 3 A trip to the pretty riverside town of Arundel - dominated by its beautiful Castle.

Day 4 Enjoy a last, hearty 'Warner's' breakfast before we see us on our journey home today.

Accommodation is Chalet-style with family units, TV, radio, hairdryer, iron, tea/coffee tray, ensuite bathroom with toiletries and towels.

Coach departs **Friday 27th April £209**

Price includes: 3 nights hotel, dinner, bed & breakfast & trips out. *Single room supplement £20*

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5 Days £296

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Here's the details...

Day 1 Join the coach this morning as we make our way to our hotel on the outskirts of Colchester.

Day 2 This morning we visit the National Trust attraction of Flatford Mill on the River Stour. The Mill and Willy Lott's House are instantly recognisable since they feature in many paintings by John Constable. In the afternoon we visit the beautiful Beth Chatto Gardens. Started from an overgrown wasteland 1960 with poor gravel soil it has been transformed into gardens that are an inspiration to anyone who visits them. You'll learn more about the history and philosophy of Beth Chatto during your visit.

Day 3. This morning we visit the capital of East Anglia - Bury St Edmunds - famous for its beautiful Abbey Gardens and the Angel Hotel where Dickens had Mrs Pickwick stay. This afternoon we stop a while in the lovely typically English village of Lavenham - with its many half-timbered buildings and famous crooked house. *A cream tea in Lavenham is included.*

Day 4 Today we visit one of the finest moated Tudor Houses in England... Kentwell Hall. Not so much a stately home but very much a lived-in and loved family home.
**At times when Kentwell Hall is closed to the public we visit the National Trust property, Melford Hall, which is nearby.*

Day 5: We leave for home after a last hearty breakfast to see us on our way.

Marks Tey Hotel, Colchester ★ ★ ★ ★
See website for full details

Coach departs **Monday 23rd April £296**

Price includes: 4 nights hotel, dinner, bed & breakfast, coach and trips out. *Single room supplement £90*

4 day coach break to Warner's Bembridge Coast Hotel

4 Days £189

Complimentary Cream Tea included on this break

Here's the full details...

Day 1 We drive down to the south coast and board the ferry to the Isle of Wight and then we make the short drive to Warner's Bembridge Coast Hotel - on the east coast between Ryde and Sandown.

Day 2. We visit some lovely locations on the Island starting with Alum Bay to view the famous Needles and one of the most photographed and quaintest villages on the Island, Gurnish. In the afternoon take at The Old Smithy'.

Day 3 We visit the capital Newport and the seaside town of Ryde - there's time to browse and have lunch here if you wish.

Day 4 After a last, hearty Warner's breakfast - it's time to go home - unfortunately!

Guest rooms have en-suite bath or shower, comfy beds, complimentary toiletries, TV, phone, chairs, reading lights, hairdryer, iron and tea/coffee tray. Note: Single rooms at Bembridge are chalet-style and separate from the main hotel.

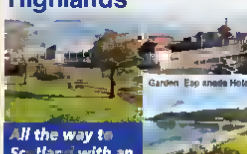
Enjoy 3 nights at Warner's popular hotel on the Isle of Wight. Your break includes; Fine food, nightly entertainment and trips out around the Island on 2 days...

Coach departs **Friday 23rd March £189**

Price includes: 3 nights hotel, dinner, bed & breakfast, coach and ferry travel and trips out. *Single room supplement £20*

Dunoon
Scottish Highlands

7 Days £366



All the way to Scotland with an overnight stop in Liverpool and 4 nights in the very scenic Scottish Highlands...

Here's the full details...

Day 1 On our way to Scotland we stop overnight in the vibrant, friendly city of Liverpool.

Day 2 We head to Gourock in Scotland and take the ferry over to Dunoon. We stay for 4 nights at the Esplanade Hotel.

Day 3 A scenic meandering drive to Loch Lomond. After a while in Loch Lomond we visit the attractive seaside town of Helensburgh.

Day 4. We'll enjoy another picturesque postcard drive through the Argyll Forest and along the shores of Loch Fyne and spend time in Inveraray.

Day 5 Today is left free so you can explore Dunoon at your own pace.

Day 6 We leave Scotland and break our journey home with an overnight stay in Lanaskshire at the legacy Hotel.

Day 7 We complete the final leg of our journey home.

Esplanade Hotel, Dunoon ★ ★ ★
The Esplanade Hotel is located on West Bay Promenade and close to all local amenities. This lovely 3 star is one of Dunoon's foremost hotels, family owned and run by a very friendly caring and professional team. Inside the hotel is well-presented throughout from the public areas to the guest rooms with full facilities (ensuite TV, phone, hairdryer, tea/coffee) and lift serviced.

Coach departs **Sunday 29th April £366**

Price includes: 6 nights hotel, dinner, bed & breakfast, coach and ferry travel and trips out as shown. *SS £75*

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Concern over plan to convert hotel into retirement homes

VILLAGERS in Wheatley are resisting plans to turn a historic' hotel into 16 retirement homes

The plans include demolishing the former Railway Inn to make way for a three-storey building providing homes for people aged 55 and over

But several residents have called for the plans for the site in Station Road to be refused citing their overbearing nature and risks to safety

Commenting on the plans, Wheatley resident B Frederman said: "I have chosen to live here because of the views and very much enjoy the light I get through a large window

"I would not get any sunlight at all unless the building would be one level only In addition I am concerned about noise pollution due to the high number of proposed apartments."

Other residents said the plans would put people at risk due to increased traffic flow

Richard Robinson said "As this through route is so busy, senior pedestrian movements may be put as risk through the lack of a safe crossing point."

Wheatley Parish Council also objected to the plans adding that there would be inadequate parking spaces for the number and size of the residences

South Oxfordshire District Council planning committee met to discuss the controversial proposals yesterday

Hunter Page the agents working on behalf of developers Beechcroft, were contacted for comment.

Tamarin twins take a sneaky peak at park

FURRY moustachioed animals welcomed two new additions to their family in Oxfordshire

Cotswold Wildlife Park is celebrating the arrival of emperor tamarin twins a species that usually comes from the tropical climates of Brazil and Peru

The as-yet unnamed and unsexed twins, weighing just 35g, are on show in their enclosure at the park.

The babies are now enjoying bonding with their parents while the father takes on the majority of duties by placing each newborn on his back and passing the babies back to the mother to be suckled

Deputy section head of primates Natalie Horner said: "Male tamarins take an active role in rearing their young by carrying and caring for the infants the majority of the time The babies only return to their mother to feed They even teach the older youngsters how to care for their younger siblings, which is an important part of their development."

With spectacular crests ear tufts and moustaches emperor tamarins are incredible animals

Flying the flag for LGBTQ+

THE start of LGBTQ+ history month was marked with flags flying across Oxford.

Events across the city will feature messages of inclusion equality and diversity and throughout the month, Oxford University museums will host their second 'Out in Oxford' trail to remind visitors LGBTQ+ people have always been an integral part of life

Last year s inaugural tour marked the 50th anniversary of the partial decriminalization of homosexuality in England and Wales

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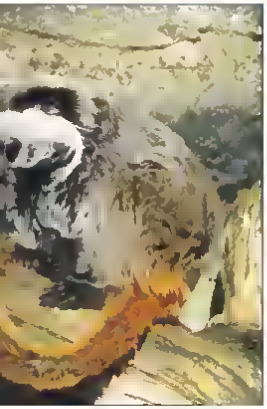


Above, one cheeky Emperor Tamarin baby gets to grips with dad's moustache and inset, the twins say hello
Pictures Debbie Ryan

who are named after the Emperor of Germany Emperor Wilhelm II who boasted a particularly impressive moustache

Some species of tamarins are now classed as critically endangered due to deforestation and trapping for the pet trade and medical research.

Virtual reality help for mental health patients

By George Welch

GROUND-BREAKING treatment that could transform the lives of mental health patients will be pioneered in Oxford as part of a £4million project.

The National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) last week awarded the grant to enable state-of-the-art therapy for mental health issues to be delivered via virtual reality in the NHS

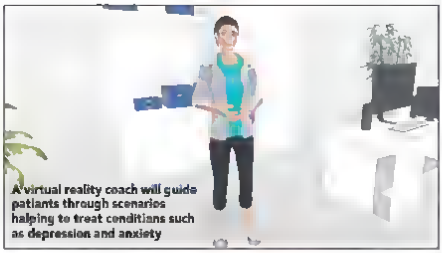
Health chiefs want to use Oxford University spinout and virtual reality business Nowican alongside NHS trusts, universities, a mental health charity and the Royal College of Art to design the product

It works by patients using VR headsets to combat tasks and simulations they may find distressing in real-life.

The VR coach will guide them through the simulations and practice techniques to overcome their difficulties

The practice is based on the theory that patients find this sort of thing easier in the virtual world.

Project lead, Professor Daniel Freeman from Oxford University's Department of Psychiatry, said "Our project will see one of the most exciting and powerful new technologies implemented in the NHS for the first time



A virtual reality coach will guide patients through scenarios helping to treat conditions such as depression and anxiety

"Virtual reality treatment can help patients transform their lives When people put on our headsets, a virtual coach takes them into computer generated simulations of the situations they find troubling.

"The coach guides the patient through these scenarios helping them practise techniques to overcome their difficulties.

"Patients often find it easier to do this work in the virtual world – and they enjoy using our VR applications – but the beauty is that the benefits transfer to the real world."

Over the next three years the virtual reality treatment will be designed with input from those with mental health problems to ensure it is simple to use engaging, and right for patient needs

A large multi-centre clinical trial in NHS trusts across the country will then take place before it is rolled out across the country

If the trial is successful it could pave the way for VR treatments for common mental health disorders such as depression or anxiety

InBrief

More pothole cash

MORE government cash has been thrown at fixing Oxfordshire's roads to tackle the effects of a tough winter

Oxfordshire County Council has recruited more workers to deal with problems on its roads as the number of reports on Fix My Street rose from 3 000 before Christmas to 7 000 during January

A new 'dragon patcher – named because of its nozzle that blasts potholes with flames– will also roar into action later this month

The council received £1m from the Department for Transport to deal with the impact of the bad weather, which has included repeated cycles of ice, thaws and snow

Defects reported include signs, blocked drains and potholes

Contractors Skanska are sending out more teams to carry our repairs while council inspectors work across the county to assess the public's defect reports

Visit tinyurl.com/y8jarbsg to report a problem.

A blitz on names

THAME Town Council has announced the names of its new snow plough – Betsy Blitzer & Percy Plough

It comes after the council threw down the gauntlet to residents asking them to put forward names for the snow plough on social networking site Twitter

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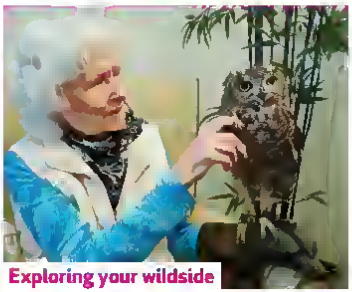
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Blending town and gown to create the spirit of Oxford

By Karen Neville

A TRUE blend of old and new have created something very special in Oxford joining town and gown in a unique way

The University of Oxford together with The Oxford Artisan Distillery have launched Physic Gin using the historic botanic gardens and the city's very own gin distillery

Unveiled last week, the spirit has come out of a 25 year licence, thought to be the first of its kind granted by the university allowing the distillery in partnership with the uni to create Oxford branded spirits

TOAD opened in Cheney Lane in July last year and uses ancient grains, grown exclusively for it in fields near Oxford – one of the factors which first attracted the director of Oxford Botanic Garden Professor Simon Hiscock, to the project.

He said, "I had always felt gin would go down well in a botanic garden, so when I met Tom [Nicholson, founder of TOAD] and discovered that Oxford was about to get its first craft distillery, the opportunity was too hard to resist."

And from there the spirit began to take shape

TOAD and the garden began a three-year collaboration which gave the distiller exclusive access to university resources and expertise.

The outcome of which, Physic Gin, celebrates the 400-year-old history and current usage of the Botanic Garden which was founded for the teaching of herbal medicine.

Today 25 of those botanicals mostly foraged in the garden, give Physic Gin its unique flavour – the recipe for which is kept under lock and key

Professor Hiscock had to pass an exam to gain a personal licence to allow the sale of the spirit at the Botanic Garden and acknowledged he was probably the first holder of an alcoholic licence there since the 1640s

Mr Nicholson, whose distillery also produces vodka whiskey and absinthe, called the production of the gin a "true town and gown partnership"

He said. "The city's distillery is working closely with university departments academics and experts to create superb spirits.

"We are of course highly privileged and can confidently promise a range of world class spirits, all bearing the revered Oxford brand."

Professor Hiscock added. "I'm looking forward to making spirits inspired by our historical collections and having some botanical fun along the way"

Professor Simon Hiscock with Tom Nicholson, the founder of The Oxford Artisan Distillery and a bottle of Physic Gin in the Botanic Gardens

InBrief

Plan for heat use

EXCESS heat from industrial sites will be used to warm buildings in and around Didcot Garden Town in radical new council plans to reduce its environmental impact.

South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse district councils will work together to redistribute heat from Didcot B Power Station via a 'district heat network' of underground pipes

SODC leader John Cotton said. "We've asked the government for some funding to investigate it further and, if we get that we will carry out the detailed design and viability work to see if a north Didcot combined heat and power scheme can become reality"

The government plans to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 80 per cent by 2050

The first two preliminary feasibility studies have been completed and the council will seek government funding later in the year

Join town tidy up

RESIDENTS are being asked to save the date for the next Thame Tidy Up which takes place on Saturday March 17

It will be a chance for the community to get together and clear the town of litter

For more information or to sign up see the Thame Tidy page on social networking site Facebook.

Expressway: 'Give people their say'

AN Oxfordshire MEP has branded a lack of consultation on the potential £3.5bn Oxford to Cambridge expressway as illegal

In a scathing letter to the chief executive of Highways England, Keith Taylor a Green MEP for the South East, said the lack of a potential public discussion of the proposed road breaches international environmental law

In his letter, Mr Taylor, who opposes the project but supports a regionally important electrified East West rail link, claims the expressway contravenes the Aarhus Convention. As the UK is still part of the EU the convention means a 'meaningful public participation in major decisions which impact upon the environment should be undertaken.

He said it is a "disgraceful and potentially illegal decision to try to push ahead with the environment-destructive project without first consulting the public"

"Wherever it is situated, it will have a significant impact on residents, communities, air quality and the environment," he added.

A Highways England spokesperson said. "Since November 2016 when three broad options for a proposed Oxford to Cambridge Expressway were published we've been taking forward more detailed work to help further design and analysis.

"We are committed to a full consultation process so people can help shape the plans."

Helping you to get fit and lose weight

DOCTORS and other health professionals combined forces with Oxfordshire County Council to launch a healthy lifestyle service aimed at reducing obesity in the county

Achieve Healthy Weight Loss Oxfordshire offers free weight loss programmes available at more than 50 locations across the county for those wanting to shed those extra pounds.

Most service users will be referred by health professionals although people can self refer themselves providing they meet the criteria.

The service, operated by London-based provider Thrive Tribe also provides a men's only 'MAN v FAT' football league weight loss initiative

Councillor Hillary Hibbert-Biles county council cabinet member for public health, said at the launch event last week that tackling obesity is key to preventing chronic disease and is one of the authority's health priorities

NHS figures publicised last year revealed that one in three children in Oxfordshire are overweight or obese.

Cllr Hibbert Biles added. "It is important that health professionals across the county know about the service and refer their patients to the new service where appropriate."

Details of the free-to-use services offered can be found at achieveoxfordshire.org.uk or by calling 01865 338119

Councillor Hillary Hibbert Biles, centre, with Hannah Pearce who heads up the service and MD of Thrive Tribe, Tim Roberts

Oxfordshire Guardian & The Oxford Paper charity of the year 2018 – Helen & Douglas House

Giving help to families when it's needed most

By George Welch

AFTER a huge response from our readers the Oxfordshire Guardian and The Oxford Paper's Charity of the Year 2018 has been decided.

We can now reveal that our chosen charity for the year ahead is Helen & Douglas House.

The hospice cares for terminally ill children, young adults and their families.

The 'home from home' provides medical, emotional and practical support, helping families deal with the implications of living with a child who will die prematurely so they can make the most of their time together.

As a charity it relies on donations to support these families and cannot do this without the generosity of the public including you, our readers.

The partnership, which aims to highlight the loving work of carers and volunteers as well as the experiences of the children and families, comes after Helen & Douglas House based just off Cowley Road, announced it was to close Douglas House which caters for 18-35 year olds amid a shortfall in funding.

Chief executive Clare Penton said: "We are so delighted to have been chosen as the Oxfordshire Guardian and The Oxford Paper's Charity of the Year.

"The money raised will make a real difference to local terminally ill children and their families, who we care for at Helen & Douglas House and at home.

"We were very sad to have to announce last week that Douglas House will be closing in August but we continue to need your help to raise essential funds to care for our patients with respite care, symptom management, end-of-life and bereavement support.

"We are operating in a challenging and competitive fundraising environment so we are so very grateful to the Oxfordshire Guardian and The Oxford Paper for giving us the opportunity to tell you more about the lives of our families, staff and volunteers as well as our events to raise money to help terminally ill children."

Karen Neville, group editor of the Oxfordshire Guardian and The Oxford Paper said: "We were overwhelmed by the number of nominations we received for the charity for us to support this year.

"It really represents the diversity of organisations in Oxfordshire which are doing such good works.

"Helen & Douglas House has supported and helped so many families during the toughest times and its staff and volunteers do the most amazing job in very challenging circumstances.

"We are delighted to be giving them our support and hope the relationship with them can prove to be as worthwhile as last year's with Play2Give."

■ Other worthy charities shortlisted for the vote were:
Response Giving
Charity Santa
Dogs for Good
Guide Dogs for the Blind
Oxfordshire Animal Sanctuary
Footsteps Foundation
Assisted Reading for Children in Oxfordshire
Children Heard and Seen
SERV OBN Blood Bikes (Ox, Bucks, Berks, and N'hants)
Teenage Cancer Trust
Daybreak
Parkinson's UK Oxford
Sue Ryder (Henley)

We will be featuring as many of these charities as possible over the coming weeks.

Oxfordshire Guardian & THE OXFORD PAPER
Supporting
Helen & Douglas House
hospice care for children and young adults

Brief history: A world first

BASED in East Oxford, Helen & Douglas House started life in November 1982, when Helen House and the children's hospice movement was founded by Sister Frances Dominica.

As the world's first children's hospice, Helen House has gone on to inspire 49 others across the UK and around the world.

The inspiration for Helen House came from a little girl called Helen who was left with severe and irreversible brain damage after an emergency operation to remove a brain tumour.

Helen's parents took her home from hospital to care for her in her family surroundings. A friendship developed between Sister Frances and Helen's parents and on occasions Sister Frances looked after Helen for short periods to give her parents a break.

From this friendship the idea of a small homely hospice for children developed.

Helen House for children opened that year and was followed by Douglas House in 2004 as a hospice for young adults.

The challenging and highly competitive fundraising environment has caused the charity to fall on harder times of late and sadly from August the closure of Douglas House.

This means it will revert to its original children-only model reducing its age range from 0-35 to 0-18, impacting more than a third of patients.

Family stories: 'Ollie was a child having fun'

OLLIE had grade 2 brain damage resulting in multiple and complex conditions including cerebral palsy, epilepsy, scoliosis and visual impairment.

Ollie sadly died in 2014 aged seven at Helen House.

His mum Marie remembers how going to Helen House helped her son.

She said: "Ollie loved going to the sensory room at Helen House, with the lights and the music in there. It's the whole atmosphere. He also loved the art room and having his hands put in paint.

"I loved finding paint and glitter on his wheelchair when he got home, because to me it showed he is a child and he was having fun."

Nurse consultant Karen Brombley and the outreach nurses also provided support at home for Ollie who also had development delay, learning difficulties and was tube fed.

Marie said: "Karen Brombley has been a fantastic support at home. She made sure that not just Ollie was okay but the whole family.

Ollie enjoyed the play therapy offered at Helen House

"She was a great help putting things in place, planning as that everyone knew what we wanted to happen for Ollie as a family. Normally you have to repeat everything, it's like a broken record. Everything was put in place. I could concentrate on Ollie.

"Ollie may no longer be with us physically but a part of him will always be at Helen House.

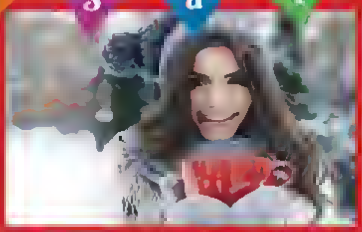
"The love and support we received from Helen & Douglas House over the years, and especially towards the end means so much to us as a family."

'The only place I'll leave Nathan'

NATHAN has Prader-Will Syndrome, a severe life-shortening condition. He loves coming to Helen House for respite care.

His mum Jenny says: "It's the only place I will leave Nathan. The care he receives at Helen House, both physically and mentally, is brilliant."

Nathan enjoys a story with Jackie during a day at Helen House



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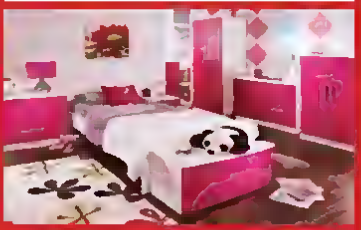

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News

Actress up for rising star award

By Eva Astreinidou

AN Oxford-born actress is in the running for the prestigious EE Rising Star award at the BAFTAs.

Florence Pugh always knew she wanted to perform and the hard work has now paid off.

In addition to the nomination, the 22 year-old has three films due to be released this year, one of which she stars alongside Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson.

But it was her performance as Katherine in Lady Macbeth that earned her critical acclaim and in turn, led to her being named a Screen International Star of Tomorrow and a BAFTA Breakthrough Brit last year.

Pugh made her film debut in The Falling, which helped garner her widespread attention and for which she received a nomination for Best Newcomer at the BFI London Film Festival Awards.

She has recently finished shooting Outlaw King, with Chris Pine and Aaron Taylor-Johnson, for release on Netflix and will soon begin filming on The Little Drummer Girl for the BBC.

She said she felt "truly honoured" to be nominated, adding: "The journey to get to this rewarding moment has been exhilarating, and so to feel recognition for doing something I love and the hard work many have put in feels very touching. It's a very proud moment indeed."

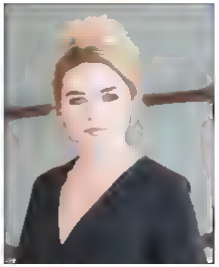
The rising star award, now in its 13th year, is the only BAFTA voted for by the British public.

Other nominees are Timothée Chalamet (Call Me By Your Name), Lady Bird), Daniel Kaluuya (Get Out, Black Panther), Josh O'Connor (The Riot Club, Florence Foster Jenkins) and Tessa Thompson (Selma, Westworld).

This year's nominees were selected by a panel of jurors including film broadcaster Edith Bowman, actress Georgina Campbell and casting director Lucy Bevan.

The winner will be announced on February 18 at the EE British Academy Film Awards ceremony at the Royal Albert Hall.

To vote for Florence, visit https://tinyurl.com/yerkgydu



Florence Pugh is delighted to have been nominated. Picture: EE/BAFTA

Caroline Lucas MP met Cheney School students to discuss green issues

School's green festival success

GREEN Party co-leader Caroline Lucas held an afternoon of inspirational sessions on a range of environmental issues to launch Cheney School's Green Festival.

The politician had lunch with the newly-formed Year 12 Eco-environmental Student Team at the school in Headington before opening the event to pupils, staff and community visitors.

Audience members asked tricky questions on a variety of sustainability issues as the Brighton Pavilion MP spoke on the importance of lowering the legal voting age to 16.

Festival organisers from Rumble Museum thanked all those who took part and said: "The audience had a wide range of questions from drug policy to nuclear energy and more – Caroline answered each one thoughtfully and with great clarity."

Oxfam, Oxford University and the Low Carbon Hub delivered workshops to raise awareness of environmental and conservation causes, such as climate change, single use plastics and solar energy.

InBrief

Recycling contract

CHERWELL District Council and South Northamptonshire Council have signed a joint two-year contract with a company to separate materials and then recycle them.

Cherwell say the deal with Leicester-based Casepak materials recycling facility will mean its recycling team will only travel a third of the distance it did and emissions will be reduced.

Healthier dog food

AN Oxford chemist has launched a "cold-pressed" dog food that could help owners understand the fat, fibre and calories man's best friend consumes with each meal.

Tribal TLC has a traffic light system on the pack similar to that used on grocery products.

Fatima Maktari, based in Chinnor, said the ingredients are "cold pressed" at 95°C, the lowest heat possible, rather than baked to "keep the goodness locked in."

Say I do at mansion

A Grade II listed mansion in west Oxfordshire has added an intimate wedding ceremony space to its venue.

Stately home Eynsham Hall in Witney opened up the Duberley Room to bookings in January, with space for up to 40 guests, floor to ceiling windows and a champagne terrace.

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Quiz MP about rail services

WEST Oxfordshire residents will get their chance to share thoughts on rail services in the area at a meeting hosted by Witney's MP.

Robert Courts will chair the Ask the GWR event with representatives from Great Western Railway and Network Rail fielding questions from the public.

A government spokesperson said: "In light of the Government's recent decision to extend the GWR franchise and the resulting consultation that is currently under way, Robert knows that it is more important than ever that residents have a say on what they want to see from GWR going forward.

"That is why Robert wants to know what you think, and wants you to be able to speak to GWR directly."

The event is described as an "open and relaxed conversation" where attendees will be able to raise concerns and questions about the railways serving the area.

Passenger numbers have reportedly trebled in recent years at nearby Hanborough station with plans to build a new ticket office, waiting room, toilet and small shop on the site.

To register your interest for the event, email annabel.pickup@parliament.uk including your full name and constituency address.

The event will run from 6.30pm to 8.30pm at Charlbury Memorial Hall today.

Robert Courts MP, pictured at Tackley Rail Crossing in north Oxfordshire, will host the GWR and Network Rail event

More temps are filling vacancies in companies

OXFORD businesses are turning to short term staff to plug the skills gap thanks to record-high employment in the county and the Brexit-effect.

Research by an Oxford-based recruitment agency shows a 20 per cent increase in the provision of temporary workers to employers in the period April to December from 2016 to 2017.

Allen Associates said finance, human resources, marketing and office administration roles have seen the sharpest rise in demand for temps over permanent staff.

Managing director Kate Allen said: "Record high employment means there are fewer candidates looking for permanent roles, which presents a serious challenge for employers with vacancies to be filled.

"This is particularly acute in areas such as Oxford, which has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the country.

She added: "Then there is the Brexit effect. Uncertainty over Britain's withdrawal from the European Union in 2019 is seeing some organisations hold back on any long-term recruitment plans.

"Whilst permanent recruitment is still strong, employers are utilising the region's temporary workforce, which is extremely buoyant right now."

Water power working – slowly

By George Welch

A £3.2million hydroelectric power plant completed last August is finally generating electricity – but very slowly.

Sandford Hydro's three 22-tonne Archimedes screws started turning at the end of last year following an unusually dry autumn and were going for a total of eight days over Christmas.

However the community-owned plant, which should produce 1,600 MWh of renewable electricity per year to power 450 homes, is still not turning nearly as much as the developers would like.

When the river levels in the Thames eventually rose high enough to push the huge metal screws around, the team had to temporarily pull the plug on its operation on December 27 – because it was flowing too high.

Low Carbon Hub is ready to go again but, according to the developer's operations director in a January update, this is problematic as the team requires "express permission from the Environment Agency on a daily basis in order to operate".

Adriano Figueiredo said this is because a telemetry link requested by the EA has not been implemented on their side.

The power plant is operational when there is a lock keeper on site at Sandford Lock but the link would give the EA river level data to help decide when it is safe for the plant to operate.

Mr Figueiredo added: "The outcome we are seeking is to get the hydro operating as much as possible and do so by working closely with the [EA] waterways team, who have been very helpful.

"Despite the frustration of not having the hydro fully operational, we believe that co-operation with the EA will benefit us all in the long term – we will be working with them for at least the next 40 years after all."

Mr Figueiredo also reassured the scheme's community investors that delays shouldn't have a negative impact on their financial returns (a dividend of a few per cent on their initial investment each year).

The plant is co-owned by more than 350 community investors, who all invested £250 per share to raise around £1.2m in total. Another £2m came from a Charity Bank loan.

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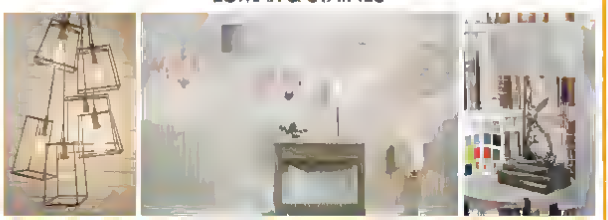
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FENC NG FEATURE ADVE IT SEMENT

Get ready for Winter

Now's the perfect time to replace your garden fence once and for all. Anna Ryder Richardson - Designer and Television Presenter - takes a closer look at Colourfence, the revolutionary low-maintenance system

I s been ten years since I regularly graced TV screene helping transf rm people's living spaces with MDF and stripped floorboards Recently it s been more "celebrity mock out" than celebrity make over as I took up the challenge of owning my own Wildlife Zoo in Tenby In this time I ve learnt quite a bit about fences and having researched the various options for my own benefit I thought I would share my knowledge with a wider audience.

The latest design processes mean there is now a tremendous array of fencing products for you to choose from –constructed from a variety of materials Each has its own attributes and ultimately it can often come down to a matter of personal preference For me there was one maj ne system that stood out as providing the best balance between price and functionality which eradicates fencing problems for good. Or for at least 25 years Colourfence For quality value, longevity aesthetic design thus fencing system ticks all the boxes Fencing made for the 21st century that will transform the look of your garden which is supplied and fitted by a company whose customer service is as good as the product

In my view Colourfence is the Rolls Royce of fencing just without the exclusive price tag What s more it s guaranteed to stay in place in up to 130mph winds and is virtually maintenance free

To find out how the experts from Colourfence might help you, I suggest you call **01865 582 171** and speak to their team

"I honestly believe that Colourfence is the best general purpose fencing product on the market today!"

Colourfence: The ultimate garden fence?

For many Colourfence is perhaps the ultimate choice. For the last 15 years it's been widely used across the UK and has steadily gained a reputation for its quality By using the h ghest specif cation Colorbond steel in the fence structure itself complemented by the highest level of customer serv ce from accredited Franchisees, Colourfence is now regarded by many as the prem er fencing solution n the market Immune to the rot and res stant to the weather that so qu ckly effects wooden fences Colourfence has none of the drawbacks of wood plenty of add tional benef ts and what's more it's better value!

Call **01865 582 171** for more information

Gardeners' Questions

Q Wooden fence panels just don't seem to last - is there a storm resistant alternative?

A The Colourfence system has been tested under cyclonic cond t ons to withstand storms with wind gusts up to 130mph Unlike your wooden fence once professionally installed– Colourfence really will stay up

Q No matter what I treat my wooden fence with - nothing seems to prevent it rotting ar looking shabby for very lang

A Treating your fence is a thankless and expensive task It s also a losing battle Wood simply want s to rot. Colourfence offers a low-maintenance alternative where by an occasional wash down will keep it looking great for up to 25 years! GUARANTEED!†

THIS WEEK'S JOB

† Terms and conditions apply full details available on request

Head into Winter - with COLOURFENCE

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Every gardener knows that it pays to plan ahead. If you are one of the thousands of people who watched helpless, as winter winds battered their garden, it will not be a surprise that garden fences are almost always the first casualty Whether you have previously patched, painted or simply prayed to keep your fence going there's no escaping the fact that timber fences will always fall victim to the weather With Colourfence you can put your garden straight once and for all Colourfence is scientifically tested and cyclonically rated to ensure when professionally installed, it can withstand wind gusts of up to 130mph. Once it's up – it stays up and is guaranteed to look good year after year Safe extra secure and hassle free – you will NEVER need to paint it, treat it or patch it. An occasional hose down will be all you need do to keep it in top condition for years to come. In fact the system is so durable that Colourfence will guarantee† their fencing to last at least 25 years Available in a range of colours to suit any garden, with or without decorative trellis, the highly skilled installation team make short work of their dramatic transformations Your sad old fence will be e_ciently cleared and replaced, leaving you to get back to enjoying your rejuvenated garden Pricing is just as straightforward and equally attractive Starting costs are in line with inferior timber systems but with no annual treatments required, Colourfence saves you time and money each and every year Their aim is your peace of mind With a 25 year guarantee† Colourfence speaks for itself and promises a lifetime of hassle-free enjoyment.

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† apply full details available on request

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Out & About

Join Gareth Malone with Michael Parkinson at fundraising night

Student company's modern twist on classic play

Hedda for the 21st century

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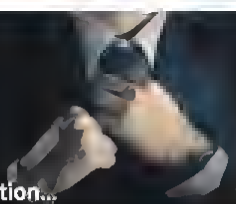

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Out Abo

Variety night for Afghanistan

Jay Rayner, Michael Parkinson, Grayson Perry and Gareth Malone will be entertaining for a good cause

By Samantha McGregor

JOIN big names including Grayson Perry, Sir Michael Parkinson, Gareth Malone and Jay Rayner to help raise the roof for children in Afghanistan.

They will take part in a special variety night at Oxford's New Theatre in a bid to raise enough money in one night to build a school in the war-ravaged country.

Promising to be an evening of entertainment and fundraising, the event takes place on Wednesday February 28.

It will feature a discussion on art, identity and Afghan rugs with Grayson Perry, an interview with Sir Michael Parkinson on his career and love of cricket, while Jay Rayner will give his insights on dining nightmares. Gareth Malone will host the evening and also give a couple of performances himself.

Cash raised on the night will be donated to Afghan Connection AC, which was set up by Dr Sarah Fane in 2002, following her time in Afghanistan as a doctor during the Soviet war and under the Taliban regime.

The charity aims to transform life opportunities for children in remote and underserved regions of Afghanistan through support for education projects.

Organisers hope to raise £121,500 to build six classrooms, toilet facilities and a security wall to help educate 132 children in Worsaj, a remote district in Takhar Province North Afghanistan.

AC has built 46 schools for 75,000 children and renovated more than 70 other schools serving some 110,000 children.

Through its support, 1,000 teachers have received training and 2,700 children attend community-based education classes in areas where there are no schools.

For more information on AC's appeal go to justgiving.com/campaigns/charity/afghanconnection/WereofSchool.

For tickets for the Variety Night drop into the New Theatre box office, call 0844 871 3020, or view atgtickets.com/oxford.

A very try- ing team

JOHN Godber's award-winning rugby comedy Up 'n' Under comes to the Oxford Playhouse later this month.

Brought in partnership with England Deaf Rugby Union, this production has been given Fingersmiths' spin.

Featuring a cast of deaf and hearing actors using British Sign Language and spoken English, this unique production promises an exciting visual and physical theatre to delight all audiences.

The Wheatsheaf Arms rugby team, the laughing stock of Castleford's Amateur Rugby League Seven-a-Side tournament, have never won a game, don't have seven players and spend more time in the pub than on the pitch.

With just five weeks to go, our hero coach Arthur has to convince them they can beat the mighty Cobbler's Arms, but first he has to work out how to communicate with them.

He aided by Tony Stoyles, Chairman of England Deaf Rugby Union and World Deaf Rugby, the first-time collaboration promotes the awareness of, and aims to develop deaf participation in, sport and arts across the country.

Tickets for Up 'n 'Under at Oxford Playhouse start at £10 and are available from the Ticket Office on 01865 305305 or view oxfordplayhouse.com

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Modern twist on a classic play for today's audience

By Samantha McGregor

A STUDENT company is gearing up to bring a classic play with a modern twist to the Oxford Playhouse.

University of Oxford student company Peripeteia Productions brings Henrik Ibsen's Hedda to the stage from Wednesday, February 21 until Saturday, February 24.

In this contemporary version of Ibsen's original, adapted by Critics Circle Award-winner Lucy Kirkwood, Hedda Gabler is brought into a modern world full of crisis, Oxford academics and destabilising gender roles.

Hedda faces an empty marriage, an unfulfilling existence and a pregnancy she doesn't want.

Driven by an unthinking desire for power, Hedda attempts to manipulate those around her to devastating effect.

First performed in 1881, Ibsen's masterpiece shocked society for its fierce and unapologetic female lead.

Now, more than 125 years later, it continues to challenge, questioning how far society has come in creating a space for women.

It is performed as part of the Playhouse's A Vote of Her Own Season, celebrating 100 years of female suffrage.

With the famous suffragette Elizabeth Robins having played the lead role in the UK's first production of Hedda, the centenary of women's right to vote is the perfect time to both celebrate and scrutinise this play.

Peripeteia Productions promise a "compelling, challenging and powerful production".

With a talented young cast, a striking set made of light and a newly composed soundscape, this production will appeal to Ibsen lovers and modern drama fans alike.

Kirkwood, playwright and writer in residence at Clean Break theatre company, will be in conversation with Oxford academic and Ibsen specialist Kristen Shephard-Barr at the Playhouse, at 5pm on Friday, February 23. Tickets for this event are free with a ticket to Hedda.

Tickets start at £10 and are available by calling 01865 305305 or go to oxfordplayhouse.com

The cast in rehearsal for Hedda at the Oxford Playhouse later this month

Plenty to laugh at in Glee Club line-up

OXFORD's Glee Club has revealed its line-up for the coming months with some top names heading to the city.

Those already signed up include Britain's Got Talent finalist Dallso Chaponda, comedian and radio presenter John Robins, BBC Radio 4's Simon Evans, and the off-the-wall Rob Auton.

UK-based Malawian comedian Dallso, will perform on February 23, after wowing television audiences in the 11th series of ITV's Britain's Got Talent last year and was sent straight to the final after Amanda Holden pressed the golden buzzer.

While John Robins, who won the Edinburgh Comedy Award 2017 with The Darkness Of Robins, appears at the club on February 11 to reflect on love, loss and lamenting the fact he can't break up with himself.

On March 2, after looking back at the 1980s for his previous show Patrick Monahan moves onto the next decade with Rewind Selector 90s, recalling the challenges he faced as an Irish/Iranian immigrant.

And March 11 catch Simon Evans, currently a writer on Lee Mack's joke-heavy sitcom Not Going Out. Evans and BBC Radio 4's Goes To Market.

Alongside the touring shows, the Cowley Road comedy club continues to host four-act line-ups every Saturday night.

Those set to grace the stage over the coming weeks include Angela Barnes on February 17 and Jayde Adams on March 3.

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Freak out at Blenheim Palace

By Samantha McGregor

NILE Rodgers & Chic will open the four day music spectacular at Blenheim Palace this summer.

They are the latest act to be unveiled and will headline Nocturne on Thursday, June 14.

For this concert Chic will be joined on the bill by two very special acts which are still under wraps.

The concert series returns to the Oxfordshire palace from June 14 to 17 and it has already been revealed that superstar singer/songwriter Gary Barlow will close the event on Sunday.

Gary's show, to include tunes from his back catalogue and a selection of Take That's greatest hits, is already sold-out.

Chic have enjoyed widespread mainstream success since their inception in the late 1970s thanks to a string of hits including Le Freak, Good Times and Everybody Dance.

Founder and frontman Rodgers has written for some of the biggest names in the music industry and produced and played on some of the best-selling albums of all time.

The Chic live show features all of the band's hits as well as songs from Rodgers' collaborations with the likes of Madonna, David Bowie, Daft Punk and Diana Ross.

Rodgers said: "We are really excited to be bringing some Chic magic to the Nocturne concert series at Blenheim Palace this summer.

"Don't forget your dancing shoes and be prepared to 'Ahh...Freak Out!' See you there!"

Chic are is the second act to be announced for this summer's event and the remaining headliners will be announced in the coming weeks.

Tickets for Chic featuring Nile Rodgers start at £45 and went on sale last Friday.

Tickets, along with a limited number of VIP packages, which provide an exclusive opportunity to dine in the State Rooms of Blenheim Palace, are also available.

For more information go to nocturnelive.com

On stage

The truth is... X Factor winner's on tour

A decade after winning The X Factor, Alexandra Burke has announced a UK tour with a stop in the city.

Called The Truth Is, this will be her first UK headline tour since 2010, and will take place in September.

She will perform songs from her new album of the same title as well as earlier hits including Hallelujah and Bad Boys.

Tickets have gone on sale for her show at the New Theatre Oxford on Saturday, September 15.

Tickets, available from the New Theatre box office, George Street, by calling 0844 871 3020 or at atgtickets.com/oxford

Take in a little Juplicity in Henley

Comedian Phil Jupitus, of Never Mind the Buzzcocks and Q1 fame, is stopping in the county for one night as part of his Juplicity show.

On Friday, March 2, the funny-man will perform at Kenton Theatre, Henley-on-Thames, focussing on the chaos of his own life and the uncertain world that surrounds it.

For more information and tickets go to view offthekerb.co.uk/phil-jupitus/

Former X Factor winner Alexandra Burke is on Oxford in September

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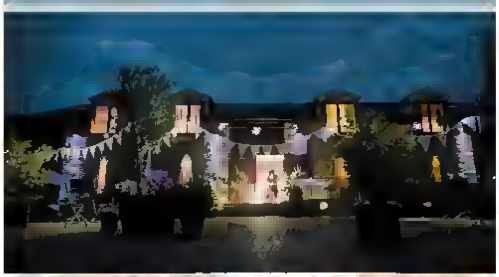

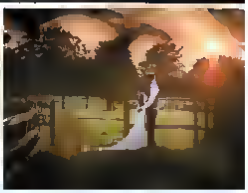

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Competition

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The Photography Show, the event for everyone passionate about photography and moving image, returns to the NEC Birmingham from 17-20 March 2018 featuring the latest kit from big brands and a jam-packed speaker line-up.

Get hands-on with new products from Canon, Epson, Fujifilm, Hasselblad, Manfrotto, Nikon, Olympus, Panasonic, Sigma and Sony to name a few, plus tripods, albums and accessories you didn't even know existed from over 220 exhibitors.

The Great Outdoors, a new stage for 2018, will feature live demos and expert advice on image capture outside including dramatic landscapes, getting close to nature and special occasions whatever the weather. The enhanced Mobile & Social Stage will offer the opportunity to explore mobile imaging technologies and how social media can make (or break) a photographer, and the dedicated Video Stage will showcase cutting-edge products alongside technical and creative help on how to get the best out of moving image production skills.

Plus, catch exciting live action tutorials on the Live Stage, find out about intriguing photography projects and techniques in Behind the Lens, discover how drones can enhance your projects in the Drone Zone and hear thrilling insights into the journeys of world-renowned photographers at the Super Stage and more!

For more information, please visit: www.photographyshow.com/pr_1

Get your ticket

To guarantee that you'll be at the show in March, you can buy tickets to the show by visiting www.photography-show.com/pr_1. Tickets to Super Stage sessions, masterclasses and for the VIP package are limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

Win tickets!

The Basingstoke Observer has teamed up with The Photography Show to offer 5 lucky readers and their plus one the chance to attend 2018's most exciting photography event absolutely free!*

To be in with a chance of winning just answer the following simple question.

Q: Where will you be able to find out more about how drones can be used?

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The Photography Show 17-20 MARCH 2018 THE NEC, BIRMINGHAM

Tickets are limited to one pair per winner and are valid for one day only. So what are you waiting for? Send your entry today!

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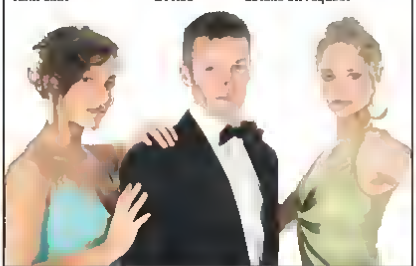

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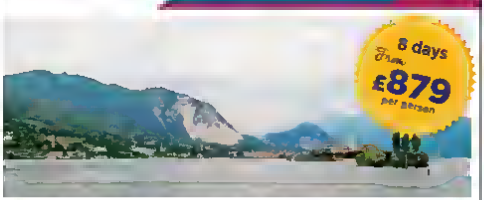

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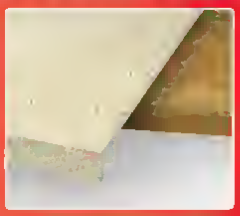

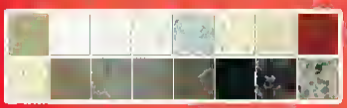

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14 T	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Each number in our Cross Code grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. You have three letters in the central grid to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the main grid then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares.

As you get the letters, fill in other squares with the same number in the main grid and central grid. Check off the alphabetical list of letters as you identify them.

MAGIC SQUARE

AND CATCHES THE SUN

Using all 16 letters of the phrase above, form four words each of four letters which will fit in the grid to form a magic square in which the words can be read both horizontally and vertically

Quiz Challenge

1. **Which major London railway station is the southern terminus of the East Coast Main Line?**
2. **What H is a box used to store cigars, cigarettes or pipe tobacco?**
3. **Ellie and Inzi, and Giles and Mary, regularly appear on which Channel 4 TV programme?**
4. **Which Belfast jail, now a tourist attraction, is the only Victorian-era prison remaining in Northern Ireland?**
5. **Which lager was advertised with the slogan "Refresher the parts other beers cannot reach"?**
6. **On which British TV soap opera, based in Brentwood, does music producer and entrepreneur Lauren Pope play herself?**
7. **Name the Northampton Saints and England rugby player married to Una Healy of the girl group The Saturdays.**
8. **Which station in Oxfordshire is the RAF's largest?**
9. **Baby, Now That I Found You was a UK number one hit in 1967 for which band?**
10. **Tartu, with a population of just over 100,000, is the second largest town or city in which European country?**

NONAGRAM

T	I	M
O	D	E
O	R	E

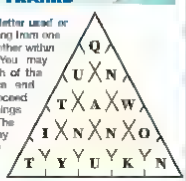
How many words of four letters or more can you make from this Nonagram? Each word must use the central letter and each letter may be used only once. At least one word using all nine letters can be found.

Guidelines
37 Good. 44 Very Good! 51 Excellent..

Any word found in the Concise Oxford Dictionary (Tenth Edition) is eligible with the following restrictions: proper nouns; plural nouns; pronouns and possessives; hyphenated words; contractions and abbreviations; vulgar slang words; varied spellings of the same word (where another variant is also eligible).

WORD PYRAMID

Spell out a 15-letter word or phrase by moving from one chamber to another within the pyramid. You may only enter each of the chambers once and may only proceed through openings in the walls. The first letter may appear in any chamber



FIVE ALIVE

DL	ER	AM	UW	RN
RO		PA		EU
VU	PE	NP	EO	MR
GE		LG		SI
SR	TO	OY	LS	TE

Here are two miniature five-square crosswords using the same grid – but the letters have been mixed up. You have to work out which letters belong to which crossword.

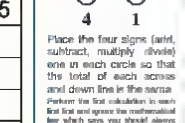
SUDOKU

Easy Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9 and so must each 3 x 3 box. **Hard**

3	4			1	8	6		
		5			6		1	
			7	5			8	3
2			3	4		8		
		6	9		1			
4	9		6	8	5	2		
1				6				
	6						4	
		8	1			3	6	

	7		4				8	
	3			1				
4	9		3					5
	5	8			7			
1			9			2		
	4	2						8
						4		
				6		2		

EQUALISER



Place the four signs (add, subtract, multiply, divide) one in each circle so that the total of each across and down line is the same

Perform the first calculation in each line first and ignore the conventional law which says you should always perform division and multiplication before addition and subtraction.

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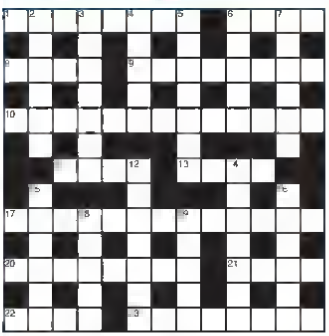
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD



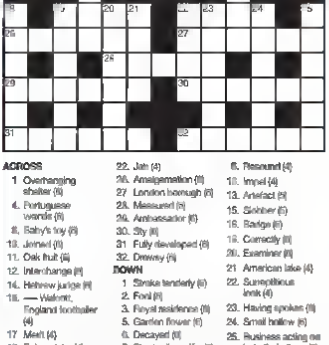
ACROSS

1. Footballer to put off going round goal (8)
6. Cryptic clue for a fish (4)
8. Most traitor having to enter prison (4)
9. Reaching for the heights with a pole perhaps (8)
10. But it is not used for cleaning up the joint (13)
11. Dishonest inclination (4)
13. Gather a salesman is outside (4)
17. Split divided the party (6,7)
20. Dismissed workers temporarily kept at a distance (5,3)
21. Lied about being out of a job (4)
22. Might one worry over this sort of work? (4)
23. Somehow I lost Ray – he's on his own (8)

DOWN

2. Navigational instrument without its top is still in existence (6)
3. Could hurtful words give you such pain? (7)
4. Wicked person dwelt in retirement (5)
5. In the game this might be achieved by milkman to the queen (7)
6. Reformed slut accepts nothing for a water lily (5)
7. Unable to hesitate at this pace? (6)
12. Monotonous outside broadcast (7)
14. Fix with a soft tip (7)
15. Twin wheel (6)
16. Linesman hoping for a catch (6)
18. Fish later prepared (5)
19. Net keen on a student's organs (5)

QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Overhanging shelter (6)
4. Portuguese wards (8)
8. Baby's toy (6)
13. Jeered (8)
11. Oak fruit (4)
12. Interchange (8)
14. Hebrew judge (4)
16. — Waldorf, England footballer (4)
17. Meet (4)
19. Polar bears (4)
22. Jab (4)
26. Amalgamation (8)
27. London borough (6)
28. Measured (8)
29. Ambassador (6)
30. Sty (6)
31. Fully developed (8)
32. Drowsy (4)

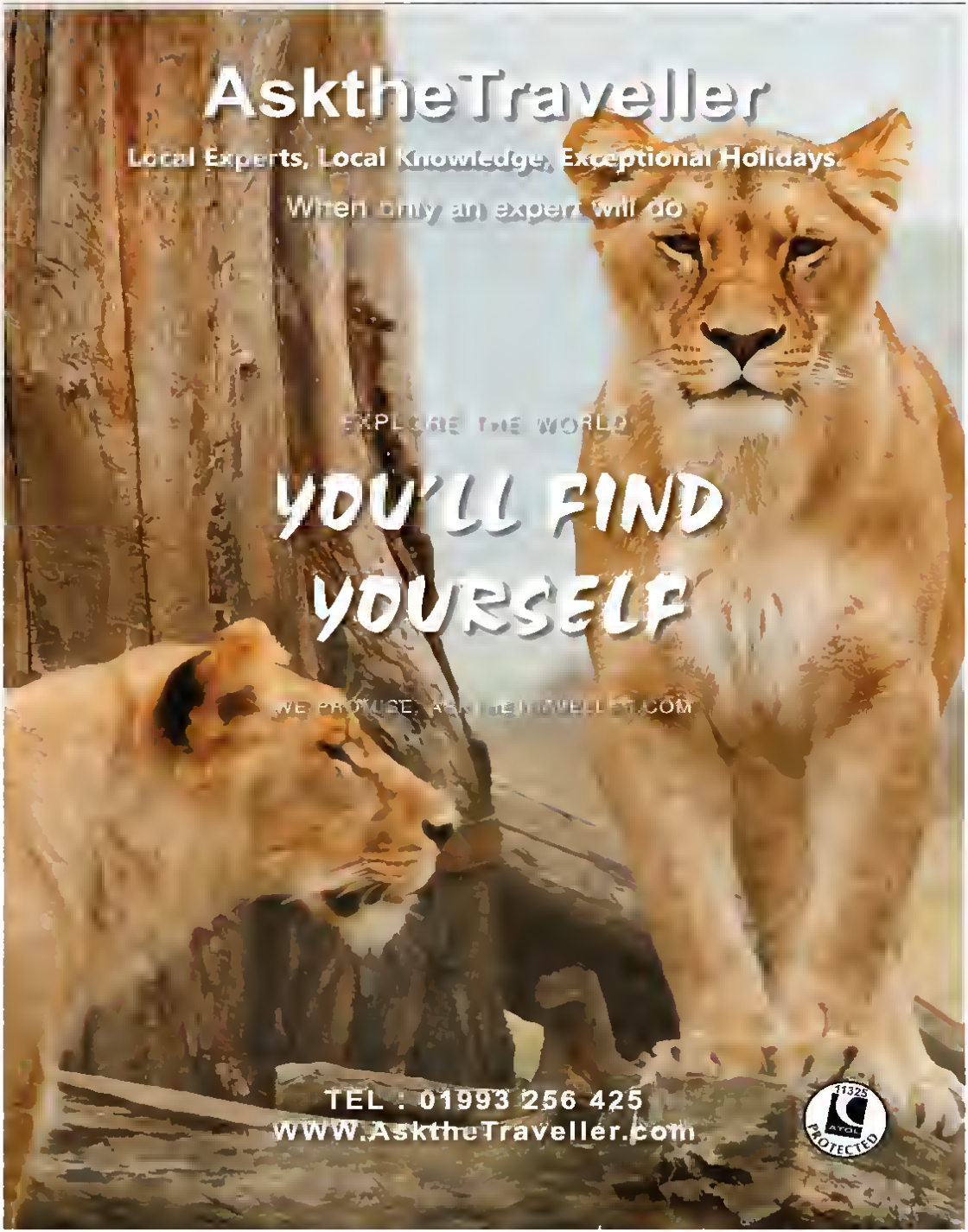
DOWN

1. Stroke tenderly (6)
2. Food (8)
3. Royal residence (6)
5. Garden flower (6)
6. Decayed (6)
7. Short railway line (6)
8. Resound (4)
10. Impel (4)
12. Artefact (8)
15. Sidestep (6)
18. Badge (6)
19. Correctly (8)
20. Examiner (6)
21. American lake (4)
22. Surreptitious look (4)
23. Having spoken (8)
24. Small hollow (6)
25. Business acting on behalf of others (6)

SOLUTIONS

FIVE ALIVE: (1) Across: Crewe, Upper, Stye. Down: Upper – Lower, Mosquito, Pretzel. (2) Across – Lower, Mosquito, Pretzel. Down – Upper, Style, Revive.

NONAGRAM
Aerate, Aeter, Arete, Artery, Atrate, Eater, Eatery, Erase, Eyrer, Retare, Retary, Retear, Retrate, Retrey, Retyre, Rerate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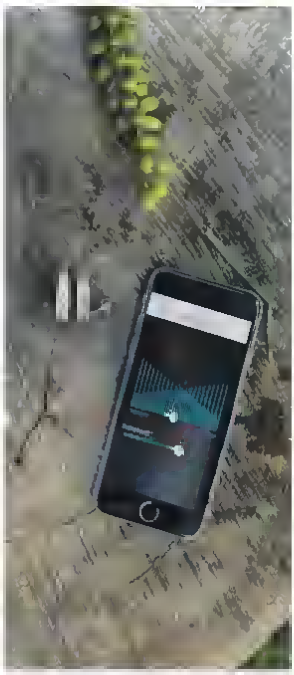

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Saturday February 10th

BBC 1

TOP TV

MORNING

10 February 2018
10.00am Winter Olympics

AFTERNOON

12.00pm Football Focus
1.00pm BBC News
1.10pm Winter Olympics
4.30pm Final Score
5.20pm BBC News
5.30pm Regional News and Weather
5.40pm And They're Off for Sport Relief

EVENING

6.25pm Pointless
7.15pm All Together Now
8.20pm Casualty
9.10pm BBC News
9.30pm Hard Sun
10.30pm Match of the Day
11.50pm Winter Olympics
2.00am Winter Olympics
6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2

MORNING

10.00am Saturday Kitchen Live
11.30am Mary Berry Everyday

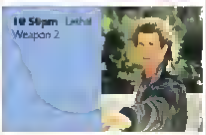
AFTERNOON

12.00pm Winter Olympics
1.15pm Hairy Bikers' Mediterranean Adventure
2.15pm Escape to the Country
3.00pm Italy's Invisible Cities
4.00pm Nigel Slater's Middle East: Turkey
5.00pm Dragons' Den

EVENING

6.00pm Hugh's Wild West
7.00pm Winter Olympics
8.00pm Dad's Army
8.30pm Grand Tours of Scotland's Lochs
9.00pm Charles II's Treasures Reunited
10.00pm The Young Victoria
11.00pm Love is All You Need
1.00am Weather for the Week Ahead
1.35am BBC News
6.00am Winter Olympics

ITV



MORNING

8.30am Be Cool, Scooby-Doo
9.05am Wishfart
9.25am ITV News
9.30am Saturday Morning with James Martin
11.20am Dancing on Ice

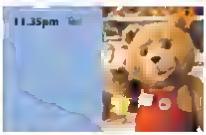
AFTERNOON

1.15pm ITV News London
1.20pm ITV News
1.30pm 6 Nations Live: Ireland v Italy
4.20pm 6 Nations Live: England v Wales

EVENING

7.00pm Take Me Out
8.15pm The Voice UK
9.45pm Through the Keyhole
10.35pm ITV News
10.40pm Lethal Weapon 2
1.00am You've Been Framed!
1.30am Jackpot247
3.00am Rabushka
3.00am ITV Nightscreen
6.00am Sooty
6.10am Bottom Knocker Street
6.20am Bottom Knocker Street
6.35am Dino Dans
6.50am Super 4

Channel 4



MORNING

7.10am King of Queens
8.00am Everybody Loves Raymond
9.00am Frasier
10.30am The Big Bang Theory
11.00am The Big Bang Theory
11.30am The Big Bang Theory

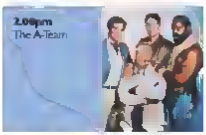
AFTERNOON

12.00pm The Simpsons
12.30pm The Simpsons
1.00pm The Simpsons
1.30pm Come Dine with Me
2.30pm Coast v Country
3.30pm A Place in the Sun
4.30pm The Secret Life of the Zoo
5.35pm The Supervet

EVENING

6.30pm Channel 4 News
7.00pm Great Canal Journeys
8.00pm Village of the Year Final with Penelope Keith
9.00pm Die Hard 4.0
11.30pm Ted
1.25am The Last Leg
2.20am Hollyoaks Omnibus
4.25am Coast v Country
5.20am Location, Location, Location
6.15am King of Queens
6.40am King of Queens

Channel 5



MORNING

9.25am Digby Dragon
9.55am Peppa Pig
10.00am Peppa Pig
10.05am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
10.40am Pets Make You Laugh Out Loud
11.05am Police Interceptors

AFTERNOON

12.00pm Police Interceptors
1.00pm The A-Team
2.00pm The A-Team
3.00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
4.00pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
5.00pm Rich House, Poor House

EVENING

6.00pm The Wonderful World of Puppies
7.00pm Cruising with Jane McDonald
8.00pm The World's Most Luxurious Cruise Ship
8.55pm 5 News Weekend
9.00pm Football on 5
10.00pm Football on 5
10.30pm The Silence of the Lambs
12.40am Super Casino
3.10am Cowboy Builders
4.00am Cowboy Builders
4.45am House Doctor
5.10am Great Scientists

Sunday February 11th

BBC 1

TOP TV

MORNING

7.30am Match of the Day
9.00am The Andrew Marr Show
10.00am The Big Questions
11.00am Sunday Politics

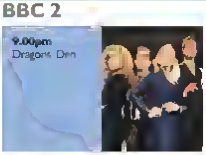
AFTERNOON

12.15pm BBC News
12.30pm Winter Olympics
2.30pm Six Nations: Rugby Union
5.00pm Songs of Praise
5.30pm Celebrity Masterchef

EVENING

6.05pm BBC News
6.30pm Regional News and Weather
6.35pm Countryfile
7.30pm Still Open All Hours
8.00pm Call the Midwife
9.00pm McMafia
10.00pm BBC News
10.30pm Regional News and Weather
10.30pm Match of the Day 2
11.35pm The Women's Football Show
12.10am Winter Olympics
3.30am Winter Olympics
6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2



MORNING

9.15am Winter Olympics

AFTERNOON

12.30pm Saturday Kitchen Best Bites
2.00pm Food and Drink
2.30pm Back in Time for Tea
3.30pm The Crane Gang
4.30pm Winter Olympics

EVENING

6.00pm New York: America's Busiest City
7.00pm Winter Olympics
8.00pm South Korea: Earth's Hidden Wilderness
9.00pm Dragons' Den
10.00pm The Mash Report
10.30pm Live at the Apollo
11.15pm Cleverman
12.10am Women's Six Nations Highlights
12.40am The Deep
2.05am Question Time
3.05am Holby City
4.05am Weather for the Week Ahead

ITV

MORNING

9.05am Wishfart
9.25am ITV News
9.30am River Monsters
10.00am Peston on Sunday
11.00am The Martin Lewis Money Show
11.25am The Voice UK

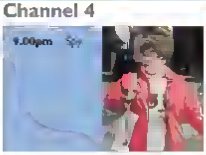
AFTERNOON

12.50pm ITV News
1.00pm Best Wales with a View with Julia Bradbury
1.30pm What Would Your Kid Do?
2.30pm The Cruise
3.00pm Britain's Brightest Family
3.30pm Tipping Point
4.30pm ITV News London
4.40pm ITV News
5.00pm The Chase, Celebrity Special

EVENING

6.00pm Dancing on Ice
8.00pm Endeavour
10.00pm ITV News
10.10pm Peston on Sunday
11.05pm 6 Nations Highlights
12.00am Next of Kin
12.00am Next of Kin
1.35am Jackpot247
3.00am Take on the Twisters
3.50am ITV Nightscreen
5.05am The Jeremy Kyle Show
6.00am Good Morning Britain

Channel 4



MORNING

7.05am Everybody Loves Raymond
8.00am Frasier
9.00am Sunday Brunch

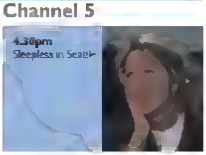
AFTERNOON

12.30pm Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast
1.25pm The Simpsons
2.05pm The Simpsons
2.25pm School of Rock
4.45pm Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer

EVENING

6.30pm Channel 4 News
7.00pm Fresh Pawn
8.00pm Lost Cities of the Maya
9.00pm Spy
11.25pm Friends with Benefits
1.25am The World's Most Expensive Food
2.20am The Supervet
3.15am Four Rooms with Sarah Beeny
4.10am Gillette World Sport
4.25am KOTV Rowing Weekly
5.05am Location, Location, Location
6.00am Countdown
6.45am 3rd Rock from the Sun

Channel 5



MORNING

9.10am Shimmer and Shine
9.30am Digby Dragon
9.45am Peppa Pig
9.50am Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
10.25am Football on 5
11.45am Police Interceptors

AFTERNOON

12.40pm Over Her Dead Body
2.30pm What to Expect When You're Expecting
4.25pm 5 News Weekend
4.30pm Sleepless in Seattle
5.30pm 5 News
5.25pm Sleepless in Seattle

EVENING

6.30pm Along Came Polly
8.00pm Rom-Com LOL Special
9.00pm Britain's Favourite Rom-Com
11.50pm There's Something About Mary
2.10am Super Casino
4.00am Get Your Teeth Out, Kevin Ink
4.45am House Doctor
5.10am Great Scientists
5.25am Wildlife SOS
6.00am Puffin Rock
6.10am Peppy Cat
6.30am Simon
6.25am Bob the Builder
6.35am Fireman Sam

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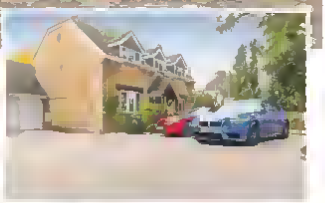

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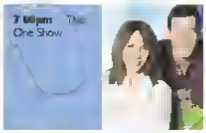
Monday February 12

BBC 1



MORNING

9.15am Winter Olympics

AFTERNOON

1.00pm BBC News at One
1.30pm Regional News and Weather
1.45pm Doctors
2.15pm The Coroner
3.00pm Escape to the Country
3.45pm Get Away for Winter
4.30pm Antiques Road Trip
5.15pm Pointless

EVENING

6.00pm BBC News at Six
6.38pm Regional News and Weather
7.00pm The One Show
7.30pm Inside Out
8.00pm EastEnders
8.30pm Panorama
9.00pm Julius Caesar Revealed
10.00pm BBC News at Ten
10.30pm Regional News and Weather
10.45pm Have I Got Old News for You
11.15pm The Graham Norton Show
12.05am Winter Olympics
4.00am Winter Olympics
6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2

MORNING

9.15am Animal Park Easter Special
10.00am Homes Under the Hammer
11.00am Wanted Down Under
11.45am Heir Hunters

AFTERNOON

12.15pm Bargain Hunt
1.00pm Winter Olympics

EVENING

6.00pm Eggheads
6.30pm Great American Railroad Journeys
7.00pm Winter Olympics
8.00pm Only Connect
8.30pm University Challenge
9.00pm Collateral
10.00pm Two Doors Down
10.30pm Newsnight
11.15pm Orlyssey
11.55pm Orlyssey
12.40am Countryfile Winter Special
1.35am Flood: Truth or Scare
2.20am Hugh's Wild West

ITV

MORNING

8.30am Lorraine
9.25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
10.30am This Morning

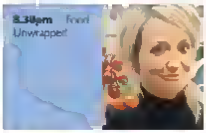
AFTERNOON

12.30pm Loose Women
1.30pm ITV News
1.55pm ITV News London
2.00pm James Martin's American Adventure
3.00pm Tenable
4.00pm Tipping Point
5.00pm The Chase

EVENING

6.00pm ITV News London
6.30pm ITV Evening News
7.00pm Emmerdale
7.30pm Coronation Street
8.00pm The Martin Lewis Money Show
8.30pm Coronation Street
9.00pm Trauma
10.00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
10.30pm ITV News London
10.45pm James Bulger: A Mother's Story
11.45pm Car Crash Britain Caught on Camera
12.35am Jackpot247
3.00am The Jeremy Kyle Show

Channel 4



MORNING

7.10am 3rd Rock from the Sun
7.35am Everybody Loves Raymond
8.30am Frasier
10.05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
11.00am Undercover Boss USA

AFTERNOON

12.00pm Channel 4 News
12.05pm Couples Come Dine with Me
1.05pm Posh Pawnbrokers
2.10pm Countdown
3.00pm A Place in the Sun
4.00pm A New Life in the Sun
5.00pm Four in a Bed
5.30pm Extreme Cake Makers

EVENING

6.00pm The Simpsons
6.30pm Hollyoaks
7.00pm Channel 4 News
8.00pm Dispatches
8.30pm Food Unwrapped
9.00pm The World's Most Luxurious Airline
10.00pm First Dates Hotel
11.05pm Derry Girls
11.40pm Hunted
12.40am It's a Weird World
1.35am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
2.25am Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners

Channel 5

MORNING

8.20am Digby Dragon
8.35am Rusty Rivets
8.55am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
9.05am Molly
9.15am The Wright Stuff
11.15am Gifts Behind Closed Doors

AFTERNOON

12.10pm 5 News Lunchtime
12.15pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
1.15pm Home and Away
1.45pm Neighbours
2.20pm Nos. Conspiracy to Murder
3.20pm The Deadly Twin
5.00pm 5 News at 5
5.30pm Neighbours

EVENING

6.00pm Home and Away
6.30pm 5 News Tonight
7.00pm Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights
8.00pm Police Interceptors
9.00pm The X Files
10.00pm Neighbours: Hit and Run
11.05pm Traffic Cops
12.00am When Kids Kill
1.00am Super Casino
3.10am Gifts Behind Closed Doors
4.00am Get Your Teeth Out, Kevin Ink
4.45am House Doctor
5.10am Great Scenbets

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Tuesday February 13

BBC 1

TOP TV

MORNING
- 9.15am Winter Olympics

AFTERNOON
- 1.00pm BBC News at One
- 1.30pm Regional News and Weather
- 1.45pm Doctors
- 2.15pm The Coroner
- 3.00pm Escape to the Country
- 3.45pm Get Away for Winter
- 4.30pm Antiques Road Trip
- 5.15pm Pointless

EVENING
- 6.00pm BBC News at Six
- 6.30pm Regional News and Weather
- 7.00pm The One Show
- 7.30pm EastEnders
- 8.00pm Holby City
- 9.00pm Shetland
- 10.00pm BBC News at Ten
- 10.35pm Regional News and Weather
- 10.45pm Sex, Drugs and Murder: A Year in the Red Light Zone
- 11.35pm Drugs Map of Britain
- 12.05am Winter Olympics
- 3.00am Winter Olympics
- 6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2

MORNING
- 9.15am Animal Park Easter Special
- 10.00am Homes Under the Hammer
- 11.00am Wanted Down Under
- 11.45am Heir Hunters

AFTERNOON
- 12.15pm Bargain Hunt
- 1.00pm Winter Olympics

EVENING
- 6.00pm Eggheads
- 6.30pm Great American Railroad Journeys
- 7.00pm Winter Olympics
- 8.00pm Back in Time for Tea
- 9.00pm Flatpack Empire
- 10.00pm Inside No 9
- 10.30pm Newsnight
- 11.15pm Mum
- 11.45pm Mum
- 12.15am Mum
- 12.45am The Super League Show
- 1.30am Charles I's Treasures Reunited
- 2.30am Monty Don's Paradise Gardens

ITV

MORNING
- 8.30am Lorraine
- 9.25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
- 10.30am The Morning

AFTERNOON
- 12.30pm Loose Women
- 1.30pm ITV Lunchtime News
- 1.55pm ITV News London
- 2.00pm James Martin's American Adventure
- 3.00pm Tenable
- 4.00pm Tipping Point
- 5.00pm The Chase

EVENING
- 6.00pm ITV News London
- 6.30pm ITV Evening News
- 7.00pm Emmerdale
- 7.30pm Save Money: Good Food
- 8.00pm What Would Your Kid Do?
- 9.00pm Trauma
- 10.00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
- 10.30pm ITV News London
- 10.45pm Girlfriends
- 11.45pm Sunday Night at the Palladium
- 12.35am Jackpot247
- 3.00am Loose Women
- 3.50am ITV Nightscreen
- 5.05am The Jeremy Kyle Show

Channel 4

MORNING
- 7.10am 3rd Rock from the Sun
- 7.35am Everybody Loves Raymond
- 8.30am Frasier
- 10.05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
- 11.00am Undercover Boss USA

AFTERNOON
- 12.00pm Channel 4 News
- 12.05pm Couples Come Dine with Me
- 1.05pm Posh Pawnbrokers
- 2.10pm Countdown
- 3.00pm A Place in the Sun
- 4.00pm A New Life in the Sun
- 5.00pm Four in a Bed
- 5.30pm Extreme Cake Makers

EVENING
- 6.00pm The Simpsons
- 6.30pm Hollyoaks
- 7.00pm Channel 4 News
- 8.00pm Jose Wicks: The Body Coach
- 9.00pm 24 Hours in A and E
- 10.00pm The Sex Robots are Coming
- 11.05pm Before We Die
- 12.30am My Millionaire Migrant Boss
- 1.15am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
- 2.05am The Supervet
- 3.00am Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners
- 3.55am The Question Jury
- 4.50am Location, Location, Location

Channel 5

MORNING
- 8.20am Digby Dragon
- 8.35am Rusty Rivets
- 8.55am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
- 9.05am Molly
- 9.15am The Wright Stuff
- 11.15am Gifts: Behind Closed Doors

AFTERNOON
- 12.10pm 5 News Lunchtime
- 12.15pm Can't Pay? We'll Take it Away!
- 1.15pm Home and Away
- 1.45pm Neighbours
- 2.15pm Nos. Conspiracy to Murder
- 3.15pm Fatal Fiancé©
- 5.00pm 5 News at 5
- 5.30pm Neighbours

EVENING
- 6.00pm Home and Away
- 6.30pm 5 News Tonight
- 7.00pm Secrets of the National Trust with Alan Titchmarsh
- 7.55pm Sorted: Exclusive Preview
- 8.00pm The QE2: Cruise Ship Warship: Money Pit
- 9.00pm Elizabeth: Our Queen
- 10.00pm Ben Fogle: Return to the Wild
- 11.05pm Paddington Station 24/7
- 12.05am Chris Tarrant: Extreme Railway Journeys
- 1.00am Super Casino
- 3.10am Gifts: Behind Closed Doors

Wednesday February 14

BBC 1

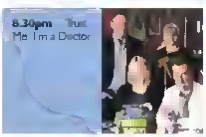
TOP TV

MORNING
- 9.15am Winter Olympics

AFTERNOON
- 1.00pm BBC News at One
- 1.30pm Regional News and Weather
- 1.45pm Doctors
- 2.15pm The Coroner
- 3.00pm Escape to the Country
- 3.45pm Get Away for Winter
- 4.30pm Antiques Road Trip
- 5.15pm Pointless

EVENING
- 6.00pm BBC News at Six
- 6.30pm Regional News and Weather
- 7.00pm The One Show
- 8.00pm The Sheriffs are Coming
- 9.00pm Earth's Natural Wonders
- 10.00pm BBC News at Ten
- 10.30pm Regional News and Weather
- 10.45pm A Question of Sport
- 11.15pm Live at the Apollo
- 12.00am Winter Olympics
- 4.30am Winter Olympics
- 6.00am Breakfast

BBC 2



MORNING
- 9.15am Animal Park Easter Special
- 10.00am Homes Under the Hammer
- 11.00am Wanted Down Under
- 11.45am Heir Hunters

AFTERNOON
- 12.15pm Bargain Hunt
- 1.00pm Winter Olympics

EVENING
- 6.00pm Eggheads
- 6.30pm Great American Railroad Journeys
- 7.00pm Winter Olympics
- 8.00pm Tom Kerridge's Lose Weight for Good
- 8.30pm Trust Me, I'm a Doctor
- 9.00pm Generation Gifted
- 10.00pm Mock the Week
- 10.30pm Newsnight
- 11.15pm Flatpack Empire
- 12.15am House of Saud: A Family at War
- 1.15am Surgeons: At the Edge of Life

ITV

MORNING
- 8.30am Lorraine
- 9.25am The Jeremy Kyle Show
- 10.30am The Morning

AFTERNOON
- 12.30pm Loose Women
- 1.30pm ITV Lunchtime News
- 1.55pm ITV News London
- 2.00pm James Martin's American Adventure
- 3.00pm Tenable
- 4.00pm Tipping Point
- 5.00pm The Chase

EVENING
- 6.00pm ITV News London
- 6.25pm Party Political Broadcast
- 6.30pm ITV Evening News
- 7.00pm Emmerdale
- 7.30pm Coronation Street
- 8.00pm Britain's Brightest Family
- 8.30pm Coronation Street
- 9.00pm Trauma
- 10.00pm ITV News at Ten and Weather
- 10.30pm ITV News London
- 10.45pm UEFA Champions League Highlights
- 11.45pm Car Crash Britain: Caught on Camera

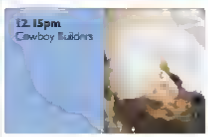
Channel 4

MORNING
- 7.10am 3rd Rock from the Sun
- 7.35am Everybody Loves Raymond
- 8.35am Frasier
- 10.05am Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA
- 11.00am Undercover Boss USA

AFTERNOON
- 12.00pm Channel 4 News
- 12.05pm Couples Come Dine with Me
- 1.05pm Posh Pawnbrokers
- 2.10pm Countdown
- 3.00pm A Place in the Sun
- 4.00pm A New Life in the Sun
- 5.00pm Four in a Bed
- 5.30pm Extreme Cake Makers

EVENING
- 6.00pm The Simpsons
- 6.30pm Hollyoaks
- 7.00pm Channel 4 News
- 8.00pm Kirstie and Phil's Love it or List it
- 9.00pm The 60 Houses: Britain's Cheapest Street
- 10.00pm Damned
- 10.35pm 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown
- 11.35pm 24 Hours in A and E
- 12.30am Pokerstars Championship Cash Challenge
- 1.25am Water for Elephants
- 3.35am Dispatches

Channel 5



MORNING
- 8.30am Digby Dragon
- 8.35am Rusty Rivets
- 8.55am Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
- 9.05am Molly
- 9.15am The Wright Stuff
- 11.15am Gifts: Behind Closed Doors

AFTERNOON
- 12.10pm 5 News Lunchtime
- 12.15pm Cowboy Builders
- 1.15pm Home and Away
- 1.45pm Neighbours
- 2.15pm Nos. Conspiracy to Murder
- 3.15pm Deadly Attraction
- 5.00pm 5 News at 5
- 5.30pm Neighbours

EVENING
- 6.00pm Home and Away
- 6.30pm 5 News Tonight
- 7.00pm Police Interceptors
- 8.00pm Gifts: Behind Closed Doors
- 9.00pm Peyton and Phlynn's Restaurant Rescue
- 10.00pm Sleepless in Seattle
- 12.05am Julie Walters: By Her Friends
- 1.05am Super Casino
- 3.10am Secrets of the National Trust with Alan Titchmarsh
- 4.00am The Railways That Built Britain, with Chris Tarrant
- 4.45am House Doctor

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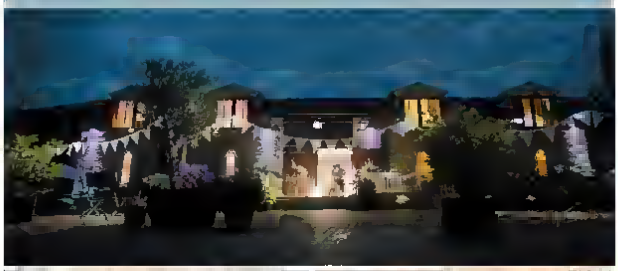

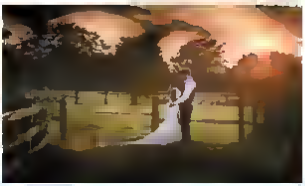

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Enjoy 'Star Car' family fun this half term at the British Motor Museum!

The British Motor Museum is inviting visitors to take part in two weeks of 'Star Car' interactive fun from 10 – 25 February 2018. There will be the opportunity to meet Parker or Lady Penelope on a family tour and discover the stories behind the Museum's famous cars from TV & film, plus get creative with 'Star Car' crafts and complete the 'Star Car' Trail.

Star Car Crafts offer a range of creative activities and take place daily. Children can make a 'Star Car' to take home, choose from templates of FAB1, Tomb Raider or Shaun the Sheep's Land Rover. Lovers of Lego® can make a 'Star Car' out of Lego which will be captured on camera and added to the 'Star Car' Wall of Fame'. Those with artistic flair can draw a car for their favourite 'star' to be displayed, or to take home. Large Lego Bricks are also available every day for under 5's to enjoy alongwith a self-guided Star Car Trail that will enable visitors of all ages to explore the 'Star Cars' as a family.

Parker & Penelope Tours will take place every day at 11.45am and 1.30pm, when costumed guides Parker or Lady Penelope will take visitors on a 'Star Car' family tour of the Museum.

Emma Rawlinson, Life Long Learning Officer at the British Motor Museum stated "We have an exciting two weeks of interactive family friendly activities planned with plenty to keep everyone entertained, whatever the weather!"

All half term family activities are included in the Museum entry. Adults £14, Children £9 (5-16 years) under 5's free. Concessions £12 & Family £39 (2 adults & up to 3 children). Buy 1 day and get 12 months free if you Gift Aid your entrance.

To find out more information please visit the website at www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk/events/family-activities or call 01926 641188

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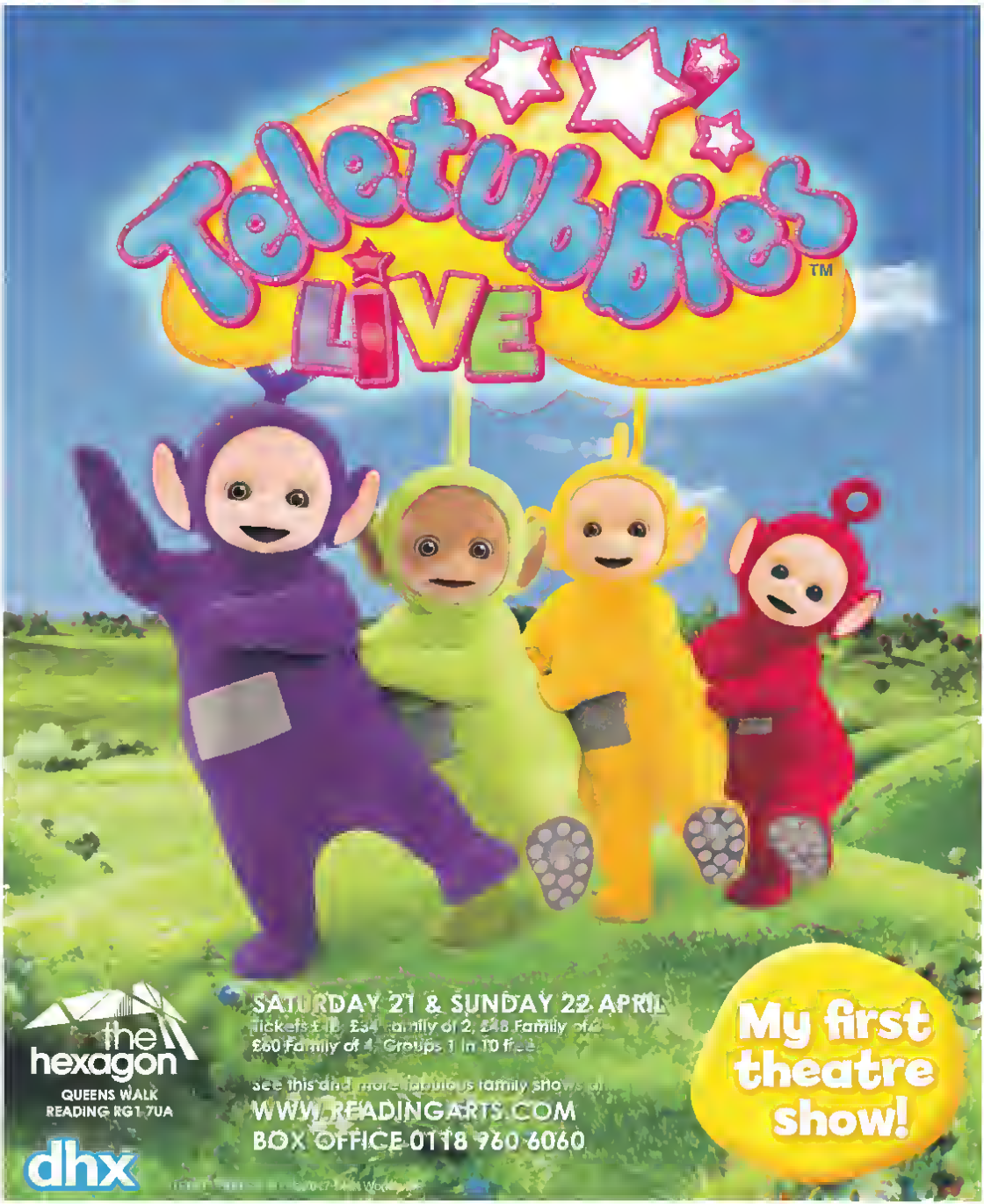
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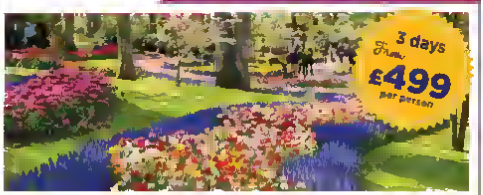

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Why is Oxford the UK's least affordable City?

Bill Cooper co-author of The Oxford Property Blog and managing director of Martin and Co, Oxford

On average a UK City home costs 7 times annual income. Not since 2007 has property been less affordable when the average was 7.5 times annual average income.

Contrary to popular belief London is not the least affordable City when property price is compared to average income that dubious accolade goes to Oxford out on its own at 11.5 times average earnings. Next comes our other world-famous City of learning Cambridge at 10.5 times earnings.

Each of London, Oxford and Cambridge have average house prices above £400,000 with Oxford average price being £422,055 over the last 12 months.

Whilst London property has stagnated during 2017 the Capital has also experienced the strongest earnings growth rising out of the credit crunch malaise faster and stronger than Cities such as Oxford Cambridge and Bath Cities popular with commuters to London such as Brighton and Winchester have also experienced property price inflation with people benefitting from London earnings demanding property and widening the gap for people who live and work locally.

Despite fewer completed sales, demand for Oxford homes has remained strong. In north Oxford, Kidlington property saw increases as high as 25% during 2015 and 2016 due to the new Oxford Parkway station making the village a commuting hotspot, and whilst price growth stagnated in 2017 Kidlington remains a buoyant local market.

So why is Oxford so expensive? First and foremost, Oxford offers a superb built environment combining historic and modern architecture and vibrant sports and leisure attractions. It is a City that attracts 30,000 students annually many of whom live in private rented properties, and is a world recognised seat of learning and centre for the knowledge industries. It is strategically located in the Centre of England offering easy access North, South East and West, and is surrounded by beautiful Cotswold countryside. Who wouldn't want to live in Oxford?

But, the City and County Councils have failed to enable and encourage sufficient new build homes resulting in a supply constrained property market. In 2017, less than 1% of the homes sold in Oxford were new build. That under-supply of new affordable homes suitable for first-time buyers and/or to down-sizing retired residents is causing there to be a chronic under-supply of 2 and 3 bedroom homes. Whilst Government policy aimed at helping first time buyers is positive in Oxford first time buyers are not limited by stamp duty but rather the size of deposit required by mortgage lenders.

For people who own an Oxford home the strength in values is an important part of their wealth planning, for the city as a whole it is the biggest strategic risk that the City faces. At present it is hard to see how local or national public policy will address this crisis.

	City	Price to earnings multiple
Least affordable places	Oxford	11.5
	Cambridge	10.5
	London	10.0
	Brighton & Hove	10.2
	Bath	10.1
	Winchester	10.5
	Exeter	9.0
	Truro	8.5
	Canterbury	8.0
	Southampton	8.0
Most affordable places	Taunton	5.4
	Guernsey	5.4
	Sunderland	5.1
	Lisburn	5.1
	Oxford	5.1
	Taunton	5.0
	Lancaster	4.8
	Bradford	4.6
	Londonderry	4.5
	Stirling	4.0

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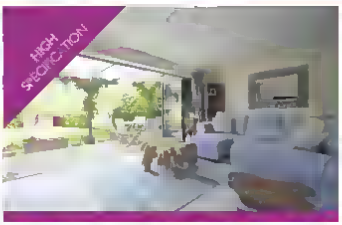
£1,100,000 Wallingford Office 01491 833323



WANTAGE An individual detached 4 bedroom family residence of approximately 3000sq ft and set on a generous plot approaching 1/4 of an acre and abutting a vineyard. EPC Rating C

£875,000 Didcot office 01235 818371

WALLINGFORD In need of refurbishment, this detached riverside property is an exciting opportunity for prospective buyers looking to create a beautiful home on the banks of The Thames with a 50ft mooring. EPC Rating D

£850,000 Wallingford Office 01491 833323

DIDCOT A four bedroom grade II listed period cottage nestled in the heart of this sought after semi rural village and set on a generous plot. EPC Rating Exempt

£625,000 Didcot office 01235 818371

WANTAGE In superb condition throughout, this four bedroom family home provides well proportioned accommodation combined with an integral garage and driveway parking. EPC Rating D

£480,000 Wantage office 01235 772670

EAST CHALLOW A stunning executive four bedroom detached home situated in this desirable village location. In superb condition throughout, detached double garage and ample driveway parking. EPC Rating B

£675,000 Wantage office 01235 772670

WATLINGTON This 3 bedroom home is set on a corner plot with a South-East facing garden to the rear there are striking views beyond the garden across fields and open countryside. EPC Rating E

£425,000 Wallingford Office 01491 833323

WALLINGFORD For sale with no onward chain this 3 bedroom semi-detached home has sizeable accommodation and has great potential to extend and improve even further (STPP). EPC Rating C

£335 000 Wallingford Office 01491 833323

WANTAGE Located in a private lane with a handful of other properties, this character home has two reception rooms, modern kitchen and WC, three bedrooms, bathroom and ensuite. Off road parking and garage. EPC Rating D.

£315 000 Wantage office 01235 772670

WANTAGE Well proportioned modern home set over three floors including open plan kitchen/living/dining room, three double bedrooms, family bathroom and en-suite. Unfurnished. Garage & Allocated Parking. EPC Rating B

£1,300 p.c.m + fees Wantage office 01235 772670

DIDCOT Built within the last three years, this three bedroom townhouse style family home is in excellent condition throughout and would be an ideal home for a professional family. Available early March, unfurnished. EPC Rating B

£1,295 p.c.m + fees Didcot office 01235 818371

DIDCOT A smartly presented one bedroom home positioned at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac. The house has well proportioned rooms, a private rear garden and allocated parking. Regrettably pets are not permitted. EPC Rating D

£825 p.c.m + fees Didcot office 01235 818371

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Suzuki Ignis 1.2 SHVS SZ5

Ignis lights up the small supermini market

By **Tony Yates**

THE Supermini market has been growing at an astonishing rate for the last few years – and as we move into 2018, it's getting even hotter – mainly thanks to everybody talking about the demise of diesel engines and why we should all buy smaller cars if we want to save the planet.

So, what's the reason for this sudden hype? Well, buyers are now looking for the smaller cars because we are told they are cheaper to run, and in many cases cheaper to buy. And that's the nuts and bolts of it basically. But, what I will say is nothing in life is ever simple.

Actually because we are talking about value for money motoring, I want to introduce you to the rather good-looking Suzuki Ignis – and why after only a few days of driving it, I'm totally convinced that maybe it's something pretty special.

Power & efficiency

The Ignis is powered by a four-cylinder Dualjet petrol engine that produces 90ps at 6000rpm and 120Nm at 4400rpm. 0 to 62 mph is dealt with in 11.5 seconds – moving onto a top speed of around 103 mph.

The official fuel economy figures from Suzuki are; 60.1 mpg (combined) with a CO2 rating of 106 g/km – although the best I could get was around 50mpg, but then I was not really trying to get near what Suzuki said was possible.

On the road

I like the way the little Ignis handles – but I do feel the suspension is a little bouncy – saying that when the road gets twisty – it is more than capable of holding its own thanks to a good balance of chassis and suspension. When you think about it, it actually performs rather well and I was really impressed by this. Of course, this means it gives you a lot of confidence into the corners, which in turn makes it quite the drive. Also when the road gets twisty – you have that wonderful Suzuki ALLGRIP 4-wheel drive system keeping you formally in check. Yes, you heard that correctly, a 4-wheel drive system that does a very nice job indeed of keeping you glued to the tarmac with no muddy fields involved whatsoever.

Design & technology

My test car was fitted with decent seating and clever interior accents, which lifts even the most boring of interiors – not that the inside is boring, but you do sense that the Ignis was set out to be more practical than luxurious. Saying that it's quite plush and all the dials and controls are easy to use. But, and its a small one, some of the plastics on the inside could have been better quality.

Space – well let's just say for a small car it has bags of it, along with a decent driving position and plenty of room in the back for most adults to sit in reasonable comfort. The boot is also pretty good, with max luggage capacity coming in around 1 086 litres.

Some of the standard features fitted to my test vehicle included: LED daytime running lights, LED projector headlamps, ALLGRIP 4 wheel drive system, DAB digital radio with 4 speakers, USB, Bluetooth and iPod, driver and passenger front, side and curtain airbags, ABS with EBD, Electronic Stability Program, Hill Hold Control and Hill Descent, automatic headlights automatic air conditioning, 16" alloy wheels, cruise control with speed limiter and rear parking camera.

To sum up

Suzuki has done a fantastic job here – and I expect the Ignis to do well as a feature-packed supermini that doesn't cost the earth.

Standard price (on-the-road) £15 499

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2015-65 SEAT LEON 1.4 TSI FR TECHNOLOGY Blue, 4 Dr, EW, AC, Alloys, 28300 Miles £12,995
2013-13 NISSAN QASHQAI N-TEC+ Black, 4 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, SAT NAV, 7 Seats, 34237 Miles £11,995
2013-13 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI TEKNA, Grey, 4 Dr RCL PAS, EW AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, Leather Seats, 88877 Miles £11,995
2011 11 AUDI TT 2.0 TDI BLACK EDITION QUATTRO, Silver, 3 DR, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 4wd, 88000 Miles £11,995
2013-62 FORD S-MAX 2.0 TDCI ZETEC, Silver 4Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 33473 Miles WAS £10 995 NOW £10,495
2013-63 HONDA CR-V 2.0 DTEC ELEGANCE 4X4, Silver, 4Dr, PW, AC, Alloys, Leather 33840 Miles £10,495
2015-65 NISSAN PULSAR 1.2 DIG N-TEC, Silver, 4 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, 18,500 Miles WAS £9 995 NOW £9,495
2014-14 MINI ONE 1.5 D, White, 3 Dr, RCL, 4X4, EW AC, Alloys, ONLY 9500 Miles WAS £10,495 NOW £9,995
2014-14 NISSAN JUKE 1.4 DCI TEKNA Black, 4 Dr RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, Leather, 26500 Miles £9,495
2011 11 AUDI A1 1.4 TFSI SPORT White, 3 Dr, RCL, pas, EW AC Alloys, 52000 Miles £9,295
2009-09 HONDA CR-V 2.2 CTDI EX, Grey, 4 DR, RCL, 4X4, EW AC Alloys, Sat Nav, Leather Seats, 48156 Miles WAS £9,495 NOW £8,995
2014-14 FORD FIESTA 1.5 ECONOBOOST ZETEC S, Silver, 3 Dr, PAS, AC, Alloys, 22500 Miles, £8,995
2014-64 HYUNDAI I30 1.4 ACTIVE, Grey 4Dr RCL PAS, EW AC, Alloys, 12460 Miles, £8,995
2014-65 SEAT IBIZA 1.2 TSI FR, White 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW AC Alloys, 28900 Miles £8,995
2013-13 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM X ESTATE, Green, 4 Dr RCL PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 61450 Miles WAS £8 995 NOW £8,695
2015-65 PEUGEOT 108 1.0 ACTIVE, Blue, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 13000 Miles WAS £8,795 NOW £8,495
2013-13 NISSAN JUKE 1.6 DCI ACENTA, Silver 4 Dr, RCL, PAS, AC, Alloys, 31800 Miles, £8,495
2014-14 SEAT IBIZA 1.8 FR TSI, Black, 3 Dr, RCL, 4X4, EW AC Alloys, 26700 Miles £8,495
2014 14 FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDTEC AUTO Silver, 4 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, 35336 Miles £8,495
2013-13 VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.6 MATCH EDITION DSG, Black, 4 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, 31800 Miles, £8,495
2014-14 FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC AUTO, Silver 4Dr RCL, PAS, EW Ac, Alloys, 25336 Miles, £8,495
2014-14 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 ON EDI, Black, 4 Dr, 4AS, EW AC, Alloys, 8200 Miles £8,495
2015-15 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0 TURBO 115 EDI, Grey, 4 Dr RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, 14,007 Miles £8,695
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2015-15 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 2.0 TDI SE CONVERTIBLE, Black, 3 Dr EW, Alloys, 56900 Miles, £8,495

2014-64 VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.0 BLUE, Black, 4 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW AC Alloys, 14500 Miles, £8,495
2013-13 HONDA CIVIC 1.8 I-VTEC, Black, 4 Dr RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 42700 Miles WAS £8,295 NOW £8,095
2013-62 FORD FIESTA 1.0 ECO BOOST ZETEC, Black, 4 Dr PAS, AC Alloys, 15600 Miles, £7,995
2015-15 FORD FIESTA 1.5 TDTEC TURBO, White, 3 DR, RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, 24791 Miles, £7,995
2013-62 VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.4 MATCH DSG, Grey, 4 DR, RCL, 4AS, EW AC Alloys 19700 Miles, £7,995
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2013 13 FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC, Black 4 Dr RCL, PAS EW AC, Alloys, 28374 Miles, £7,695
2014-13 VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.8 TDI MATCH EDITION, White, 4 DR, ECL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, SAT NAV 44,500 Miles, £7,295
2014-64 FIAT 500 1.2 S, Black, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, ONLY 9500 Miles WAS £7,495 NOW £7,295
2015-14 SEAT IBIZA 1.8 TSI I-TECH, Blue, 3 DR, RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, SAT NAV 31800 Miles £6,995
2006-14 RENAULT CLIO 1.8 DYNAMIQUE, Grey, 4 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 22317 Miles WAS £7,295 NOW £6,995
2015-14 FIAT 500 1.2 S, Red, 3 DR, RCL, PAS, EW AC Alloys, 26000 Miles ...WAS £7,995 NOW £6,795
2013-63 NISSAN MICRA 1.2 ACENTA PREMIUM, Silver 4 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Sat Nav, 27800 Miles £6,595
2001-11 SKODA OCTAVIA 1.8 T SE ELEGANCE, Grey, 4 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, Leather, 17909 Miles, £6,495
2014-14 VOLKSWAGEN MOVE-IT 1.6, White, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW, AC, 9950 Miles, £6,295
2014-14 SUZUKI SWIFT 1.2 SZ3 Red, 3 Dr RCL, PAS, EW, AC, Alloys, 13990 Miles WAS £6,995 NOW £6,795
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2014-64 PEUGEOT 308 ACCESS 1.6, Red, 5 DR RCL, 4AS, EW, 20 Record Km, 12750 Miles £6,495
2013-62 SEAT IBIZA 1.4 SE, Black, 3 Dr, RCL, 4AS, EW AC, Alloys, 51700 Miles, £6,495
2013 13 TOYOTA YARIS 1.8 TR, Turquoise, 3 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, Reverse Camera, 41500 Miles £6,495
2001-11 MAZDA 3 1.3 TAMURA, Silver, 5 Dr, RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, 31840 Miles, £4,795
2006-07 RENAULT MEGANE 1.4 DCI DYNAMIQUE ESTATE, Silver, 5 DR, RCL, PAS, EW AC, Alloys, SAT NAV, 45755 Miles, £3,995
2011-61 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 URBAN, Grey, 4 dr, rcl, pas, ew, 44 150 Miles £4,795

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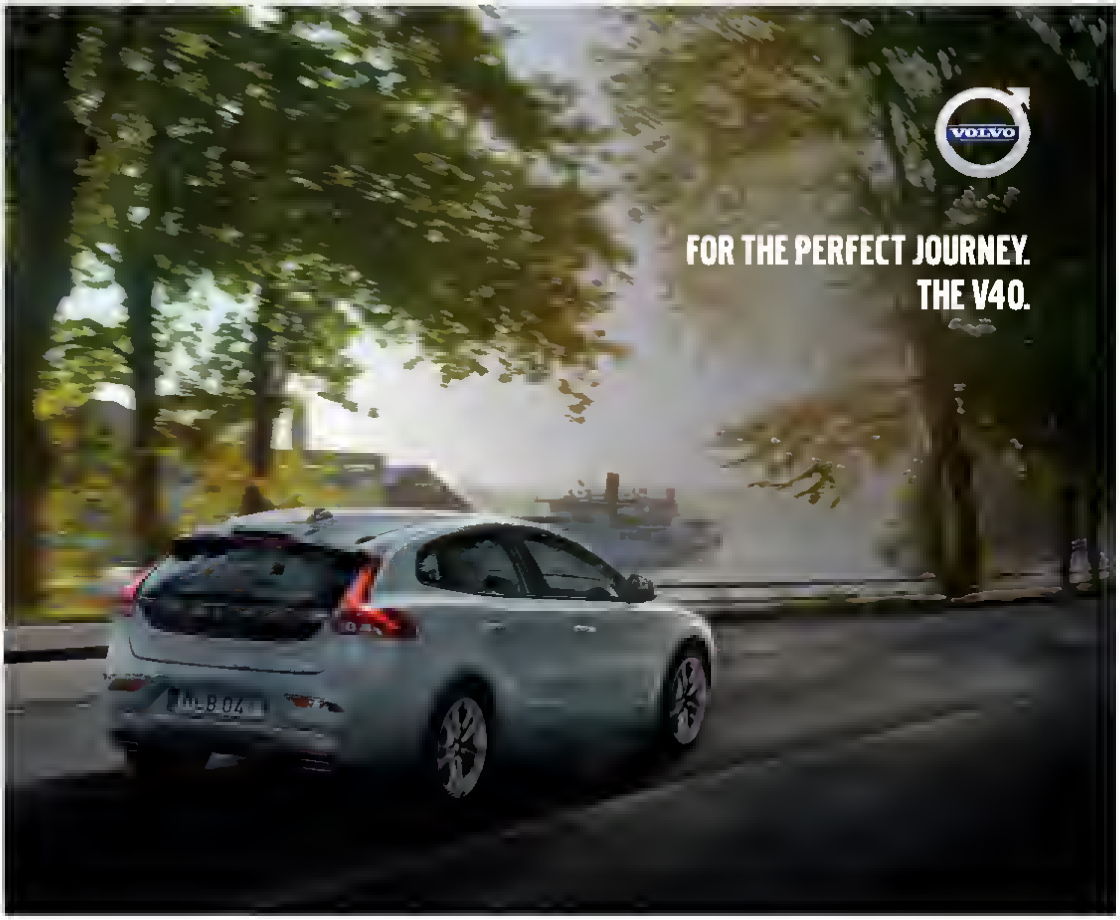

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17 monthly rental	£188.52
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Contract term mileage	12,000
Excess mileage charge	7.56p

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17 monthly rental	£168.91
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Excess mileage charge	7.56p

Volvo Personal Contract hire example for V40 2.0 T2 Momentum Nav Plus 5dr in Osmium Grey based on 18-month non-maintained agreement

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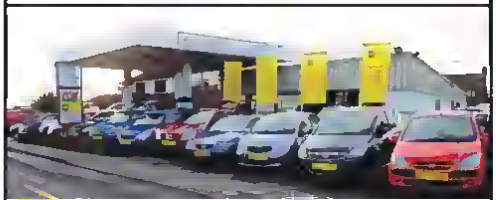

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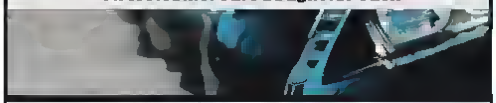

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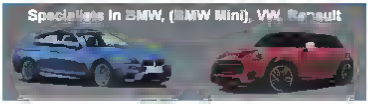

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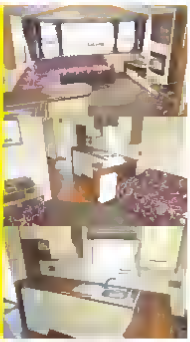

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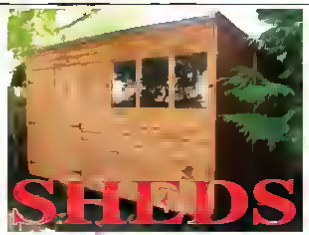

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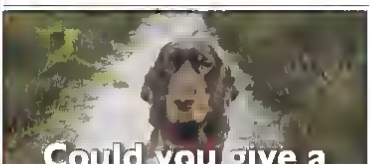

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Smith encouraged by testing

By George Welch

MotoGP

BRADLEY Smith says he is 'pleased with the progress KTM Red Bull made over the three-day MotoGP test at Sepang with its new RC16

The Forest Hill rider finished in 19th place overall in the Malaysian testing at the end of last month.

Smith was raring to get on the track for the first time in 2018 but a serious crash from team mate Pol Espargaro on day two overshadowed the weekend

However the Austrian outfit said it took plenty of positives from the weekend as Smith and other team-mate Mika Kallio were able to test themselves with an extensive testing programme

Smith clocked his weekend's best time on day two with a time of 2:00.520 as he trailed team-mates Espargaro (2:00.262) and Kallio (2:00.464)

KTM took a new aerodynamic fairing to Sepang, though Smith only had limited track time with it

The 27-year old said "Obviously it's a busy test schedule here in Sepang and after Pol's crash it has meant that myself and Mika have had to work through a lot.

"It's been a chance for us to evaluate a lot of different things and to give us a direction on what to do

"On day three the grip was a little less and that means that it's good conditions for us to test in.

"Usually when the track gets grippy and hot we struggle a little bit so it's been good to have these conditions"

He added, "I'm generally quite pleased with what we've tested because I think that we've got a good base to work with at the Thailand tests in a few days time"

Espargaro said he felt 'lucky to avoid serious injury when he crashed into a wall at over 250 km/h

The next testing session will be in Thailand on February 16

There will a final testing session in Qatar on March 1 before the 2018 season gets off to a racing start at the Losail International Circuit in the same country on March 18

Bradley Smith tests out the new ride ahead of the season's starter in Qatar next month Picture: *Gold and Goose*

Neil pockets a win on return

Snooker

DIDCOT cueman Neil Craycraft earned his big break on the Cuestars snooker circuit with a winning return to the sport after a seven year absence

The South of England Senior (40+) Tour wrapped up the fifth leg with a final showdown between the Oxfordshire champion and rankings leader Matt Ford.

Craycraft won the final 2-0 on home tables at the Jesters Snooker Club in Swindon to avenge a 2-0 defeat to Bracknell-based Ford in the group stages

Victory pocketed the top pot of £100 and 25 points on the leaderboard

The Didcot snooker are progressed to the final at the expense of Woking tennis coach John Motton, whom Craycraft dispatched 3-1 in the last four match

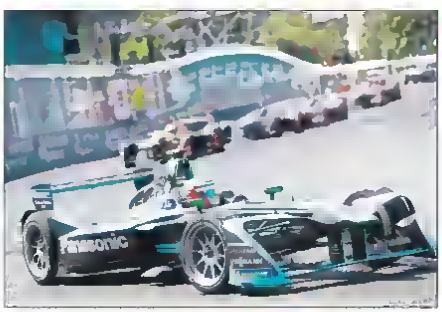
Southampton's Neil Carroll made his first semi-final appearance of the season in the other tie, losing 2-0 to Ford.

Ford remains in first place in Group C – known as the "group of death" – with Craycraft second.

However Ford leads the group-stages overall with three tournaments to go.

Chandlers Ford Snooker Club in Eastleigh will host the sixth leg of eight when the championship gets back under way on Sunday February 18.

Jaguar turning up the heat after good finish in Chile



Nelson Piquet was in contention throughout in Chile but had to settle for sixth-place finish. Picture: *Panasonic Jaguar Racing*

Formula E

JAGUAR celebrated a double point-scoring weekend for the first time this season after both drivers finished in the top 10 at a dramatic Santiago E-Prix.

With hard-fought, wheel-to-wheel action from the front of the race, Mitch Evans made swift progress up the grid

The New Zealander elbowed his way through the pack from P20 to cross the line at the inaugural Santiago E-Prix in seventh place

Team-mate Nelson Piquet Jr, starting fifth on the grid, made a lightning start and battled for the lead throughout but had to settle for a sixth-placed finish.

The double points finish continued the Grove-based outfit's strong start to their second season in Formula E

Evans said he was "very happy" to claim six points after fighting back from a disappointing qualifying

"The important thing is that the Jaguar has the pace, as a team we are still learning but getting better all the time" added Piquet Jr, who scooped eight points in Chile

Jaguar are fourth in the team standings with 54 pmnts – the highest tally the team have ever achieved. Piquet Jr is fifth and Evans is seventh in the drivers' championship

Grove-based driver Alex Lynn said he was happy with his team's "DS Virgin Racing" performance despite having to retire after losing a battle with his gearbox

Round five of the all-electric series hits the streets of Mexico City on March 3

Legend passes some top tips

Basketball

YOUNG players at South Oxfordshire Heat Basketball Club received a masterclass from a British Olympian and decorated professional on Saturday

Towering six foot eight basketball legend Drew Sullivan took control of the regular Saturday practice at Didcot Girls' School to put the children though their paces in an intensive session.

As well as the tough workout, the youth basketballers were taught about the importance of working as a team, hard work and discipline to achieve goals on and off the court.

Trustees from SOHBC said they were "happy to be able to provide these unique opportunities for young basketball players in Oxfordshire"

"It is important that the children interact with someone like Drew who has reached the highest level of UK basketball but is at the same time a great role model for respect and fair play"

The Olympian played College Basketball in the US for Villanova before successful stints in some of Europe's most competitive leagues including the UK, Holland, Spain and Russia.

More than 100 children are registered as players at development side SOHBC competing in youth leagues

The Club recently launched an U14 girls team and U14 girls league and welcomes new players at training sessions

Early promise hit by a nightmare nine holes

Golf

A DISASTROUS back nine ended Eddie Pepperell's bid to make the final round of the Mayhank Championship in Malaysia.

The Abingdon golfer made the cut after a positive start and was only five shots off the lead heading into round three.

But the Frilford Heath member who carded encouraging rounds of three-under par on days one and two for six-under par at the halfway stage, suffered a nightmare back nine in round three.

The collapse meant Pepperell was one of eight players to fail to make the final round in a rare extended cut

Round three began in steady fashion for the 27 year-old, who motored through the front-nine on level par after two birdies and bogeys cancelled each other out.

The final nine holes proved more problematic however

He hit four bogeys, a double bogey and a triple bogey to record a dismal eight over par for the day dropping him to two-over par and out of the competition.

The Mayhank Championship was won by India's Shubhankar Sharma, on 21 under, two shots clear of Jorge Campillo

Pepperell still earned €3,581 (around £3,183) in prize money for his 80th placed finish.

He is not playing in the ISPS Hana World Super 6 competition in Perth, Australia, which tees off today

City face a fight for survival

By Owen Hughes

Oxford City

OXFORD City are without a win in five in the Vanarama National League South after slipping to a 2-1 defeat against fellow strugglers Concord Rangers on Saturday

Hoops hopes of salvaging a point from the away trip were dashed when the Beach Boys scored the match winner with just 10 minutes left.

An experimental formation featured Joe Oastler, Cristian Navarro and Conor Stevens lined up in a back three in front of keeper Craig King, leaving Eddie Jones and Freddie Grant to protect the flanks

A midfield three of Mamadou Fofana, Godfrey Poku and Zac McEachran were deployed in the centre of the pitch while Matt Paterson cut a lonely figure up front with Rob Sinclair in behind.

Femi Akinwande opened the scoring with the first real chance of the half as the new look Hoops struggled to get a foothold.

Running repairs to a set of wonky goalposts provided a brief stoppage in the half before King was forced into a save on 37 minutes from a Concord free kick from the edge of the area.

McEachran's wild shot five minutes later was soon forgotten when the young midfielder unleashed an effort that rattled the outside of Beach Boys' post.

It was the City goalpost's turn to feel the good vibrations in the second half as Akinwande came close to doubling his tally, crashing his effort against the woodwork.

McEachran pulled the strings for the Hoops as Grant met his cross at the back post to sweep home for the leveller on 57 minutes.

But with less than 10 minutes remaining, Stephen Cawley popped up with an emphatic finish to deny City a share of the spoils.

Manager Mark Jones said: "We are in a relegation battle now, there's no doubt about it.

"We've got to stick together and fight these next 13 games.

"I'm not a quitter. I'll keep going and try and prepare the players as best we can and hope the players can go on the pitch and do the job."

Freddie Grant looked to have rescued a point for Oxford City before heartbreak 10 minutes from time. Picture Michael Allen

Hemel Hemstead Town make the trip to 13th placed Oxford City on Saturday

Vanarama National League South
Saturday 3 February
Concord Rangers 2-1 **Oxford City**

Evo-Stik South Premier
Saturday 3 February
Banbury United 5-0 Gosport Borough
Tuesday 6 February
Banbury United 1-1 Basingstoke Town

Evo-Stik South East
Saturday 3 February
Beaconsfield Town 0-1 **Thame United**

Evo-Stik South West
Saturday 3 February
Didcot Town 0-0 Swindon Supermarine
Kidlington 4-1 Cinderford Town
Shortwood United 2-1 **North Leigh**
Tuesday 6 February
Didcot Town 3-1 Salisbury

Uhlsport Hellenic League Premier Division
Saturday 3 February
Abingdon United 4-2 Lydney Town
Burnham P-P **Wantage Town**
Oxford City Nomads 1 3 Ascot United
Monday 5 February
Woodley United 2 3 **Wantage Town**

Double delight for Didcot

Evo Stik round-up

A GEORGE Jeacock double helped Didcot Town increase the pressure at the top of the table in a mightily impressive 3-1 win at home to Salisbury on Tuesday

The former Oxford United youngster converted from the spot within 10 minutes and doubled the lead on 28 minutes

Stuart Green got the Whites back into it four minutes later with his 15th league goal of the season but they missed the chance to go in level at the break when Tom Whelan had a spot kick saved. It was a third penalty miss in four games for the Wiltshire side

No team has more wins on the road than Salisbury but the Railwaymen secured the points on the hour mark when Felipe Barcelos broke away to score

Didcot also battled to a 0-0 draw at home to fellow high flyers Swindon Supermarine on Saturday despite Adam Learoyd seeing red for a lunge just after half time

Also in Evo-Stik South West, Kidlington are within seven points of the play-offs with games in hand after beating Cinderford Town 4-1 on Saturday

Mark Janes scored twice while Lance Williams and Duran Martin were also on target at Yarnton Road to stretch the Greens' unbeaten run to four games

Josh Pin flies over during Didcot Town's 4-0 drawn with Swindon Supermarine Picture: Roger Allen

North Leigh suffered more misery after they conceded a last-gasp goal to lose 2-1 at fellow strugglers Shortwood United. It was the Millers' eighth defeat in nine matches

Butler serves two goals to give Utd win

Hellenic round-up

ABINGDON United recovered from their defeat last time out to put four goals past visitors Lydney Town on Saturday

The Vale side fell behind to a Ross Gabriel goal in the first half, before Thomas Buller scored two in the final five minutes to edge in front at the break.

Callum Harvey (58 minutes) and Dejon Noel Williams (65) all but sealed the contest before Declan Morley Lynne grabbed a consolation with a minute to spare

The 4-2 win at Northcourt Road means Abingdon leapfrog Oxford City Nomads into 12th on 32 points

A failure to get out of the traps quick enough was the Nomads undoing when Ascot United raced ahead through a second minute goal at the Oxford City Stadium.

Jack Tutton pulled one back for the home side on 60 minutes but was soon cancelled out by James Richardson (75) and George Lock (85) to make sure of the 3-1 defeat.

Wantage Town's trip to bottom club Burnham at the weekend was postponed, but the promotion hopefuls won a vital away clash with Woodley United 3-2 to remain third in the table on 63 points

Nomads will be Burnham's next visitors on Saturday while Abingdon welcome Longlevens to Northcourt Road

Wantage's next scheduled fixture is at home to Fairford Town on Saturday February 17

Four points in four days a good return for Puritans

Banbury United

BANBURY United were unlucky not to follow up Saturday's 5-0 hammering of Gosport Borough with another three points at home to Basingstoke on Tuesday

Ricky Johnson bagged a second half hat trick at home to Gosport on Saturday to add to Elliot Sandy's penalty on 45 minutes and a volley from Jack Self mid-way through the second half

The Puritans started Tuesday's game against Basingstoke in similar form and were rewarded with a goal on eight minutes when Luke Carnell followed up a Tom Winters free-kick palmed straight into his path.

First half dominance failed to deliver more goals and the home side were made to pay when Ben Wright snatched a 1-1 draw for Basingstoke with five minutes remaining.

Manager Mike Ford said after the game "When you have two games over a Saturday and a Tuesday, you always look for four points and we've got them.

"On Saturday we had players that played well and we were winning, but we didn't have enough of those tonight [Tuesday]

"My big moan is the fact we didn't control the game. It's not ideal but we'll take that point."

Banbury sit ninth in the Evo-Stik South Premier on 58 points and now travel to Slough Town on Saturday

Golly Goss! Thame net victory over promotion chasers

Thame United

THAME United caused a major upset in the Evo Stik South East to trip up Beaconsfield Town's promotion charge

The mid table Oxfordshire side came away from Holloways Park with all three points after a dogged display to dig out a 1-0 win.

It was a game that reserved all of its action for a tense second half after a largely uneventful opening 45 minutes

Thame's breakthrough came courtesy of Lynton Goss who tucked away the rebound from his missed penalty on 65 minutes

A trip on Goss in the box after a through ball from Tom Ashworth left the referee with no option but to point to the spot

Goalkeeper Ravan Constable guessed the right way but could only parry the ball directly back towards Goss who slotted it into an open goal

The away side finished the stronger as Beaconsfield were reduced to 10 men after Alexander Cathline was given his marching orders for an elbow to the jaw of Adam Morris.

An organised team performance saw out the game to move Thame to 10th in the division on 42 points

They are nine points off the play-offs with games in hand on most teams

Thame move on to prepare for the visit of third-bottom Hanwell Town on Saturday

Lynton Goss scored the winner with his 16th of the season Picture: Alan Kelnch

Rovers next as U's in no rush to name new boss

By George Welch

OUFC

OXFORD United need to build on their heroics from the win over Charlton Athletic by replicating their performance against mid-table Bristol Rovers.

That is the message from caretaker manager Derek Fazackerley who will lead out the U's at the Kassam for the first time on Saturday.

The 56 year-old, who joined the club at the same time as Michael Appleton in 2014 has tasked his side to find some consistency.

"I said to the players straight after the game that, as pleased as we are with the win, we have had many many occasions not just this season, where we have had fantastic results away and not been able to come home and put back-to-back results together," he said.

"That has to change and Saturday's performance is something we've got to build on. We have to make sure that in the games going forward we have that same focus, intensity, hunger and desire, all the things that we spoke about and which enabled us to achieve Saturday's result."

The Gas arrive in Grenoble Road on the back of a 2-1 defeat at home to surprise package Shrewsbury Town – but that loss was their first one in six games.

A bumper crowd is expected – Rovers sold out their allocation last week – with this fixture throwing up some entertaining contests in recent years.

Meanwhile chairman Darryl Eales has insisted he is in no rush to appoint a permanent manager.

Derek Fazackerley is hoping for more of the same at home on Saturday and inset, managerial contender David Unsworth in his Everton days

It has been 17 days since Pep Clotet was dismissed, and the club is taking its time to recruit.

The club has kept its cards close to its chest, although previous favourites Michael Appleton and Frank Lampard moved quickly to publicly rule themselves out of the running.

However according to reports in the north west, Premier League side Everton have given the U's permission to speak to academy coach David Unsworth.

The 44 year old oversaw the club's Under 23 outfit as they won the Premier League 2 title last season before serving as a stand-in at first-team level in October.

Before Sam Allardyce was unveiled as Ronald Koeman's replacement, Unsworth – known as Rhino – took charge of eight games in all competitions, winning just two of them.

Names in the frame

Latest odds from SkyBet:

David Unsworth 4/6
Craig Bellamy 7/4
Derek Fazackerley 6/1
Michael Beale 14/1
Paul Ince 16/1

Oxford United's youngsters avenged their 2-0 home league defeat to Exeter in December (pictured) with an impressive penalty win on Saturday. Picture: OUFC

Character helped cup win

OUFC Under-18s

OXFORD United's youngsters relished the sweet taste of revenge as they progressed into the area finals of the League Cup.

The Under-18s advanced to the penultimate round of the competition with a dramatic 10-9 penalty shoot-out win against Exeter City on Saturday.

The young U's had lost twice to the EFL Youth Alliance South West champions already this season.

The pair of defeats bookended an impressive eight match unbeaten run for the Yellows which made getting their own back taste even sweeter for Leon Blackmore-Such's side.

The game ended 3-3 with the Oxford goals coming from Owen James (twice) and right-back Dan Carr scoring the other to force penalties.

U's stopper Max Harris converted the winning penalty in sudden death to set up an area final against Luton Town.

Blackmore-Such praised "a great performance" and said: "Credit to all of the players. We defended well, we took our chances and then it was a good test of nerves when it went to penalties."

He added: "Exeter have just won our league and have been in great form so when you factor in the journey down there then the odds were against us a little bit.

"We have spoken a lot this season about spirit and character and I think that's what got us through in the end."

United take on Luton Town at home in the Southern Area final on March 31.

Penalty drama knocks Ladies out of FA Cup

OUFCW

OXFORD United Ladies were on the wrong end of an FA Cup fourth round upset as they lost on penalties to Cardiff City Ladies on Sunday.

The U's were held to a 0-0 draw after extra time and the Welsh side who play in the tier below in the WPL Southern Division, progressed with the 5-4 shootout victory.

United set the tempo from the off and dominated the early stages.

Kayleigh Hines fired well over with the first effort of the match before Emily Allen was thwarted by Estelle Randall in the Cardiff goal.

Both sides had their chances in the first half – Cori Williams went closest for the Bluebirds – but it remained goalless at the break.

Oxford came out firing again in the second period but were left frustrated by the impressive Randall.

Tsome Oliver forced the keeper into a big save and Hannah Short crashed a header off the post when the stopper was finally beaten for the first time.

The best moment of the match came 10 minutes from time when Oliver, with the goal gaping, was again foiled by arguably the save of the season from Randall.

So extra time it was and Cardiff began to dominate.

Chloe O Connor Jemma Heath and Cori Williams could have easily won it for Cardiff.

Oliver went close again when she struck the bar in the dying moments, but this one was settled on penalties.

Emily Poole converted the Welsh side's winner.

Ex-youth coach lands job in New Zealand

FORMER Oxford United youth coach Des Buckingham has been appointed as the new head coach of New Zealand Under 20s.

The 32-year-old, originally from Cowley, will take up his position later this month.

Buckingham has also landed a role as assistant coach for the All Whites – the senior side – even though the head coach has yet to be announced.

The former United youth goalkeeper was a youth coach at the club between 2014 and 2014 before moving to the other side of the world to spend four years in New Zealand.

This included various roles at Wellington Phoenix, culminating with a spell in charge of the A League side.

He has been involved with the Stoke Under 23 setup since last summer but has now been reunited with Chris Greenacre, his assistant at Wellington in New Zealand.

Buckingham was appointed last month, the same time as José Figueira's selection as the Under 17 boss.

New Zealand Football technical director Andreas Heraf said: "We are really excited to have Des and Jose as our U 20 and U 17 coaches for the next World Cup cycle.

"They both bring a huge amount of high level coaching experience and the challenge for them is simple — to get our age group teams winning on the world stage and get our best young players ready for the national team."

Buckingham's first task will be to guide Junior All Whites to the next FIFA World Cup in 2019 at a qualifying tournament in Tahiti in November.

SkyBet League 1		GP	GD	PTS
1	Wigan Athletic	28	42	63
2	Shrewsbury Town	29	18	61
3	Blackburn Rovers	30	25	58
4	Scunthorpe United	31	13	54
5	Rotherham United	30	14	50
6	Bradford City	31	2	48
7	Charlton Athletic	29	3	46
8	Peterborough United	29	8	43
9	Portsmouth	30	1	43
10	Oxford United	30	2	41
11	Plymouth Argyle	31	-4	41
12	Gillingham	30	0	40
13	Bristol Rovers	30	-4	39
14	Doncaster Rovers	31	1	38
15	Southend United	30	-13	37
16	Walsall	28	-5	36
17	Fleetwood Town	30	-6	36
18	Blackpool	30	-6	34
19	AFC Wimbledon	30	-6	34
20	Northampton Town	31	-23	33
21	Oldham Athletic	31	13	32
22	MK Dons	29	12	30
23	Rochdale	27	10	25
24	Bury	30	-21	24

Sport

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More sport inside: U's No need to rush search for new manager' | MotoGP Promising testing | Golf Third round horror show in Malaysia

Impressive performance yields right result for Faz

By George Welch

Charlton Athletic 2

Ahmed Kashi 63, Josh Magennis 78

Oxford United 3

James Henry 76 Todd Kane 89 Ryan Ledson 90+4

Attendance: 11 747 (1,381 away)

CARETAKER boss Derek Fazackerley praised his "outstanding" Oxford United players after dramatic late goals from debutant Todd Kane and Ryan Ledson fired the U's to an excellent win at Charlton Athletic.

The managerless side put on quite a show as they gallantly fought back from a goal down on two occasions to snatch all three points at the death.

Following a goalless first half the home side took the lead when Ahmed Kashi capitalised on John Mousinho's error just after the hour.

James Henry equalised but United appeared to have thrown it away just two minutes later when Northern Ireland international Josh Magennis put the Addicts in front again.

Kane on loan from Chelsea, produced an accomplished finish to equalise in the 89th minute and, five minutes later Ledson grabbed the winner with a stunning side-footed effort from 18 yards.

The thrilling win sent nearly 1,400 United fans – and Fazackerley – into pure jubilation.

"I'm obviously pleased with the result and the performance," Fazackerley said. "I said before the game to the players that irrespective of the result what we first and foremost needed was a performance – and I thought the performance throughout was outstanding in many aspects.

"The fact we got a result out of it as well rewarded them for their persistence, the never say die attitude and the ability, focus and concentration that they put into the game."

It was a difficult first game for the temporary boss who lost striker Wes Thomas in the warm up and his replacement Jon Obika, limped off in the first half.

And at the other end, the usual defensive failings persisted.

He added: "Being a defender myself it is absolutely frustrating that we've again leaked a couple of goals which has given us a problem that we shouldn't have had.

"But in saying that I thought the honesty, endeavour, humility and integrity of the players got them back into the game and it was really pleasing to see."

The U's, up two positions to 10th in League One, host Bristol Rovers on Saturday in Fazackerley's first game in charge at the Kassam.

Ryan Ledson is mobbed by his teammates after scoring a last-gasp winner for the U's and inset, James Henry shoots to bring the game level at 1 1 Pictures. *Darrell Fisher*

Fans support and singing crucial to U's

GOAL scoring hero Ryan Ledson dedicated his 94th minute winner to the hordes of Oxford United fans who follow the team up and down – and across – the country.

The 20-year-old midfielder slotted home impressively from the edge of the penalty area to complete a dramatic 3-2 victory at Charlton Athletic on Saturday.

The winner sparked delirious scenes as Ledson inset who was heavily linked with a move to the Championship last month celebrated enthusiastically with the 1,400 strong United contingent.

"You know me and the fans – we have a great relationship and that [goal] was for them," the Scouser said.

"They come in their numbers and sing their hearts out which all the boys appreciate."

Oxford turned down two bids from not so-secret admirers Preston North End in the January transfer window.

The former Everton trainee... who rubbished reports of handing in a transfer request scored his third goal of the season with the last gasp strike.

Of the win, he said. "Performance wise we were very good. If we get the performance right the result will take care of itself.

"Maybe there were one or two mistakes and we got punished for it but we were clinical and we could have had a couple more.

"We dug in really well, which is better than what we've been doing in recent weeks we just need to back it up [against Bristol Rovers on Saturday]."

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